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NATO MILITARY MEETINGS BEGIN, FOCUS ON ARMS RACE

LD210854 Moscow TASS in English 0731 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] Brussels May 21 TASS -- TASS correspondent Albert Balebanov reports:

A series of spring meetings of NATO's leading military bodies began here today. It was started by the defence ministers of countries belonging to NATO's Eurogroup (12 European NATO partners, without France and Iceland. Spain is present as an observer). Simultaneously, the NATO Military Committee has begun a meeting attended by chiefs of the General Staffs of the NATO countries and heads of national intelligence services.

The main items on the agenda of these meetings are the speeding up of the arms race, involving both conventional and nuclear arms, discussion of the American plans for the militarisation of space and the further increase of military budgets. NOUVELLES ATLANTIQUES, a bulletin close to NATO, says that special emphasis in the work of the bloc's military bodies will be put on increasing "conventional" arms arsenals, specifically a 15-year programme for building up conventional armaments, stockpiling considerable munition reserves, and annual increase of national military budgets by three per cent in real terms.

Within the framework of NATO's Eurogroup the defence ministers are to review the progress of work on the joint development and production of new generations of a heavy tank, a naval plane and a combat ground-to-air missile.

As is said by the BELGA news agency, East-West relations are to be examined at these meetings through the prism of the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms. The Western press says that the Pentagon's chief will urge the allies not only to support Reagan's so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative" but actively participate in it.

Charikov Commentary

LD210924 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] Weinberger, the U.S. defense secretary, has arrived in Brussels. He is going to take part in the session of the NATO military planning committee, which opens today. In the opinion of a number of overseas observers, the head of the United States' war department will again put pressure upon his allies in the NATO bloc with the object of drawing them even more deeply into implementation of the "star wars" plans. Here is Igor Charikov with a Mayak commentary:

[Charikov] In the U.S. capital there is no absolute assurance that the U.S. allies in Western Europe will completely and unconditionally support the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative put forward by President Reagan. This is lacking because more and more often and more and more loudly statements are being heard from prominent political and public figures and from the parliaments of Western countries to the effect that this initiative will merely serve as a step along the way toward the escalation of the nuclear arms race.

The prospects of the militarization of outer space give rise to their alarm and concern. This was vividly demonstrated during the the recent visit to Western Europe by President Reagan and during his meeting with the leaders of the West's major capitalist countries in Bonn.

One can not fail to recall that at the 39th session of the UN General Assembly, in the voting on the resolution on preventing the arms race in outer space, the United States was the only country coming out against its adoption. In other words, it found itself in isolation. The voting showed once again that the world community is striving to protect space against militarization. The principled and constructive position of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries on this issue finds widespread support among the overwhelming majority of states.

As is known, from the very beginning the Soviet Union has come out and still does actively come out in favor of the prevention of the militarization of space. We put forward one initiative after another with the object of preventing the transfer of the arms race into outer space. It is sufficient to recall that the Soviet Union proposed that both the USSR and the United States should, for the duration of the Geneva talks, introduce a moratorium on the development, including scientific-research work, on the testing and deployment of space strike armaments. This proposal was made once again in the interview given by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to the Indian PTI news agency.

The acceptance by the U.S. side of this initiative as well as our other proposals on nuclear missile armaments would help to put the Geneva talks onto a practical footing, would correspond to the aspirations of the peoples of all continents, and would serve as a good foundation for advancement along the road toward disarmament.

NATO MEMBERS FAIL TO AGREE ON SDI PARTICIPATION

LD202021 Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 20 May 85

[Yuriy Reshetnikov commentary]

[Text] Representatives of 16 NATO countries meeting in West Germany have failed to agree on their countries' participation in President Reagan's "star wars" program. Our observer Yuriy Reshetnikov has prepared the following commentary on the issue:

The NATO delegates concluded their 4-day meeting on Monday by voting on a resolution which called vaguely for closer economic ties among the allied nations. During 3 days of inconclusive debates, it became clear that there was no way they could agree on the U.S. Administration's "star wars" program, which proved to be a bone of contention. At the meeting held in Stuttgart, French, Norwegian, and Danish delegates overwhelmingly rejected the Reagan administration's Strategic Defense Initiative, as [the] "star wars" program is formally called. The allies, not without justification, generally view the program as a threat to European stability and an incentive to a new arms race. In the technical panel discussion at the Stuttgart meeting, a French parliamentarian expressed his fears that the "star wars" defense could trigger off a new arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union because it does not include a renunciation of offensive missiles. A Norwegian representative doubted whether Europe could be protected at all, implying that the United States was above all concerned about its own security.

For its part, the United States has done precious little to allay West European fears about the possible consequences of developing space-based weapons. John Garner, the Pentagon's SDI program director, in his presentation to the NATO meeting, virtually confirmed European fears that "star wars" could trigger off a new arms race.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union made it clear that once the United States launches its space weapons program the USSR would have no choice but take appropriate countermeasures to restore the existing military and strategic balance. According to Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Sergey Sokolov, these measures could be both in the area of defensive and offensive arms, and these measures will be adequate to the threat that might be created to the Soviet Union and its allies.

Despite claims to the contrary, Washington's "star wars" program is basically offensive in nature. In theory at least, it would allow the United States to launch a nuclear attack by protecting itself from retaliation. Coupled with an unrelenting buildup of nuclear weapons pursued by the United States, the "star wars" effort can only serve to further destabilize an already risky strategic situation and thus increase the likelihood of nuclear war. The militarization of space will also greatly complicate, if not altogether rule out, any further efforts currently aimed at reducing nuclear weapons, for these problems are inherently linked and cannot be dealt with independently of each other.

Despite Washington's optimism about the potential benefits of a space-based weapons system and the huge costs involved in developing such a system, it would not make the United States any more secure. As the Soviet defense minister recently indicated, its emergence would inevitably lead to lowered security for the United States and its allies.

FRG, JAPANESE INVOLVEMENT IN SDI VIEWED

PM210811 Mosocw PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Yuriy Kharlanov "Commentator's Column": "Harnessing Them to a New Chariot"]

[Text] Speaking in the West German Bundestag the other day, Chancellor Kohl reported that he had discussed with Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone the question of Washington's "star wars" program. The two of them agreed to cooperate closely and coordinate the positions of the FRG and Japan with regard to participation in the research which the project provides for.

At the same time, a conference was taking place in West Germany involving government officials and leading representatives of a number of firms, concerns, and scientific research institutes to discuss U.S. plans for the militarization of space. Although official statements are being made in Bonn and Tokyo to the effect that nothing has finally been decided yet, the facts show that the two countries' leaders are actively urging their "captains of industry" to join the United States in the development of space weapons.

Washington's envoys who have visited Western Europe and Japan recently, including General Abrahamson who is responsible for the "star wars" program, have brought with them, according to newspaper reports, a portfolio of specific orders for scientific research establishments and concerns in the allied countries. They are lured by promises of future gigantic profits and the possibility of access to "the most advanced U.S. technology." However, the terms for this "access" are still subject to numerous reservations. The point is that for Washington's partners, participation in the "star wars" program will be not only of a subordinate nature, but actually humiliating. Abrahamson stated frankly that the allies will be permitted to take part only in that part of the research and development not regarded as secret. If the participants go to the United States, they will be obliged to undergo humiliating checks from the security services. Lastly, in any event the allied firms will only be involved in developing individual components of the "star wars" weapons, often without knowing where and for what purpose they will be used.

The White House incumbent himself, in a talk with French President Mitterrand, stated that the U.S. partners "are invited" to take part in the program only as "subcontractors," which annoyed the French side. That is understandable, since it is a question of a highly dubious "exchange" that the United States is foisting on the West European countries and Japan. Of course, the illusory "benefits" are in no way comparable with the obvious fact that the adventurist "star wars" venture will quite definitely lead to a huge new spiral in the arms race and a sharp exacerbation of international tension.

SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SUBMIT CDE PROPOSALS

LD201525 Moscow TASS in English 1521 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Stockholm May 20 TASS -- At today's meeting of the Stockholm conference the socialist countries set forth a new important initiative promoting detente in the military field in Europe.

The delegation of Czechoslovakia submitted a working document that contains detailed proposals concerning prior notifications about major exercises of ground forces in Europe, as well as in the adjacent sea (ocean) region and air space starting from the level of 20,000 men and more.

The delegation of the German Democratic Republic tabled the document on prior notification about major air force exercises. In conformity with that document subject to notification would be air force, naval and air defense aviation exercises during which over 200 combat planes would be in the air simultaneously in the announced region of the exercises on the territory of any participating state in Europe, as well as in the adjacent sea (ocean) region and air space.

The delegation of the Soviet Union submitted a working document proposing notification about naval exercises held in the sea (ocean) region adjacent to Europe in case more than 30 combat ships and 100 military planes are involved in them.

The documents contain the provision that such notifications are to be served 30 days in advance. They are to contain information about the general purpose of the exercise, the states participating in it, the numerical strength of forces, the number of planes and combat ships involved, as well as the area and proposed time when the exercises will be held.

Addressing the meeting, the head of the Soviet delegation, Ambassador at Large Oleg Grinevskiy, emphasised that the socialist countries were consistently following a line toward building up confidence and security in Europe both in the military and political spheres. Major political initiatives of socialist countries are under consideration at the Stockholm conference. A call for their early realization and for attaining mutually acceptable accords at the Stockholm conference was made in the address of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., of May 9, 1985.

Trying to direct the conference into the channel of business-like negotiations, the Soviet representative went on to say, delegations of a number of socialist countries submitted working documents today which develop and make more detailed their proposals concerning notifications about major military exercises. It is well known that modern ground, air and naval forces possess big strike power and can accomplish a wide range of combat missions both independently and in close cooperation with each other.

Major exercises of air and naval forces involving hundreds of combat planes and ships, such as the exercises held by NATO countries now, can constitute a threat to security, to create situations in which the danger of a miscalculation or accidental outbreak of war grows. Notification about this kind of exercises served beforehand would promote confidence-building. This is especially important under the existing conditions, when literally before the eyes of the whole world, seemingly ordinary departures of fleets of certain powers into the ocean transformed themselves into aggressive actions against sovereign states.

Oleg Grinevskiy called upon the conference to embark on practical negotiations on the basis of equality and equal security of the sides.

TASS: U.S. OPPOSES UN EFFORT TO AVERT NUCLEAR WAR

LD172100 Moscow TASS in English 2033 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] New York May 17 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev reports:

The U.S. has openly opposed the efforts of the U.N. aimed at the prevention of a nuclear war and the curbing of the arms race. It follows from a U.S. statement contained in a report published by the U.N. Commission for Disarmament which deals with the U.N. role in the sphere of disarmament. [sentence as received] In this document Washington expressed profound discontent over the fact that in the past several years the U.N. devoted ever more time to disarmament problems. In its opinion, the "volume of efforts" that the international community devotes to this key problem of today is too great. The White House is also dissatisfied over the great number of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on disarmament problems, as well as over the fact that the overwhelming majority of countries vote for them.

The U.S. diplomacy which set itself the task of undermining the efforts of the U.N., strongly recommends to critically analyze the quality and quantity of resolutions on the disarmament problem, to strictly limit the discussion of this problem, to forbid many U.N. committees and specialized bodies to deal with it. Washington which openly advocates the doctrine of "permissibility" of a nuclear war and of a first nuclear strike would be especially willing to undermine the struggle of the world community for the removal of the nuclear threat. It is not accidental that the U.S. statement contains the truly sacrilegious attempt to put on the same footing nuclear and conventional armaments, a nuclear and conventional war, under the pretext of criticism of some "disbalance" of resolutions of the General Assembly which allegedly confines itself exclusively to nuclear disarmament problems.

The obvious irritation of the U.S. over the role played by the U.N. is quite understandable, since its aggressive policy which runs counter to the aspirations of mankind is brought under stinging criticism at this forum, and the isolation of the U.S. there is growing. At the 39th session of the General Assembly during the voting on the resolutions it adopted the opinion of the U.S. delegation was at variance with that of the overwhelming majority of states in four cases out of five. During the voting on the package of the most important resolutions on disarmament (17 drafts) the U.S. voted in favour only once.

UN DISARMAMENT COMMISSION SESSION HELD

Naval Arms Curbing Proposed

LD182234 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 18 May 85

["Latest News" commentary by Yevgeniy Kachanov]

[Text] The socialist countries have undertaken a new peace initiative at the UN session of the Disarmament Commission. Representatives of Bulgaria, the GDR, and the Soviet Union put forward for the commission's discussion a joint document proposing concrete steps to curb the naval arms race in accordance with the General Assembly resolution on this issue. Here is a "Latest News" commentary with Yevgeniy Kachanov:

From the start I should say that the struggle for limiting and reducing the level of military activity and military confrontation in the regions of the world's oceans, where the possibility of conflict situations arising is most likely, is one of the major spheres of the foreign policy activity of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. The topicality of these efforts is becoming more obvious in light of the fact that the United States and its aggressive military bloc allies do not conceal their intention to lay special stress on intensive use of their naval power and, for this purpose, to take practical steps. It is clear that this is done in order to secure for the United States a dominant position in the world's oceans and to make the achievement of Washington's imperialist objectives in various regions of the world easier. Thus, the change of strategic objectives and a return to what was one called gunboat diplomacy and what can now be called, I would say, the diplomacy of carriers of missile warships.

More and more often Washington sends its warships or even entire fleets to the shores of countries where events do not satisfy the creators of U.S. policy -- it could be Lebanon, Nicaragua, or the Indian Ocean countries. And, of course, the world community is most concerned over the accelerated rate of equipping U.S. ships and submarines with nuclear missiles.

The socialist countries confront this dangerous course with their principled policy of reducing the level of military confrontation in the world's ocean. As far back as 5 years ago, in May 1980, the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member-states put forward concrete proposals on this question. The Soviet Union's memorandum on limiting naval activity is widely known, too. It was put forward for examination by the second special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament. Now again, the socialist countries are raising this important issue. The joint document of Bulgaria, the GDR, and the USSR proposes, in particular, that states should refrain from any activity leading to the acceleration of the naval arms race. It is proposed that special attention should be paid to warships carrying nuclear weapons and to examine the question of their withdrawal from certain regions of the world's oceans and to discuss measures concerning naval bases on foreign territories.

Carrying out certain regional measures could also have a positive effect. They include converting the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean into peace zones and strengthening security in the Persian Gulf region. The aim of all these proposals is to prepare the conditions for direct transition to talks on mutual limitation of naval activity and on reducing naval armaments. It is now the other side's turn.

Israelyan Addresses Session

LD210500 Moscow TASS in English 0455 GMT 21 May 85

[Excerpt] New York May 21 TASS -- V.L. Israelyan, representative of the USSR, pointed out the need to decide as soon as possible upon both concrete steps to curb naval activities and upon ways to hold talks on wroking out such steps. All big naval powers and other states concerned should participate in talks on limiting naval activities and naval arms.

AFANASYEV MENTIONS USSR 'ANTIDOTE' TO SDI POISON

PM170927 Paris LE MONDE in French 16 May 85 p 2

[Article by PRAVDA editor Viktor Afanasyev: "The Lessons of the Great War"]

[Text] In World War II dozens of countries united to save mankind from the brown plague. Why should East and West not now unite to prevent a thermonuclear war threatening to destroy all life on earth? The victory demonstrated extremely forcefully that it is necessary to wage war on war before it breaks out, while the missiles are still in their silos, and the guns are silent.

Mankind is at a turning point in its history. Its future depends on the accomplishment of tasks such as the elimination of the threat of nuclear war, prevention of the militarization of space, the utilization of space for peaceful purposes, and the pooling of the people's efforts to solve economic and ecological problems.

The path leading to the accomplishment of these tasks is effectively open. Negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States have begun in Geneva. We started to negotiate with good intentions and with an easy conscience. We do not aspire to unilateral advantages over the United States, or over the NATO countries; we do not aspire to military supremacy; we want the arms race to end and not to continue, and that is why we are proposing to freeze the nuclear arsenals and end missile deployment; and we want a real and major reduction in the arms stockpiled and not the creation of new weapon systems, either in space or on earth. On 8 April the Soviet Union introduced a moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles, while halting the implementation of other retaliatory measures in Europe. This moratorium is valid through next November. The decision we make after that date will depend on the U.S. attitude.

Ronald Reagan's "Strategic Defense Initiative" is particularly dangerous. The authors of this initiative describe it as "defensive." In fact, it is the offensive "star wars" doctrine. It is part of a comprehensive nuclear first-strike strategy put forward by Washington. The White House strategists' very simple calculation is to hide behind an antinuclear umbrella so as to be able to inflict a nuclear blow on the USSR and its allies, and avoid a retaliatory strike against the United States. But this calculation by the Pentagon will inevitably turn out to be erroneous because we will not sit back and do nothing. Every poison has its antidote. We too will find the means of countering space weapons.

Nonetheless, we are counting on the success of the Geneva negotiations. We understand that these preliminary talks will be important, serious, difficult and, it seems, lengthy. Yet, this success will only be achieved if the principle of parity and equal security is respected. This is the only language in which we want to talk to the Americans to enable us to understand each other and reach agreements. The Soviet Union is a big and powerful country having reliable allies, and it will not allow people to use the language of force with it.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD191658 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 19 May 85

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin, IZVESTIYA political observer; publicist Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin; and Vladimir Yakovlevich Tsvetov, Central Television and All-Union Radio political observer]

Shultz-Gromyko Meeting, Geneva Talks

[Text] [Tsvetov] Hello, comrades! Last week Comrade Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, had a meeting in Vienna with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz. During their meeting, they touched on questions relating to the Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons. Comrade Gromyko expressed concern at the unconstructive attitude at the talks by the U.S. side. It is with a discussion of that attitude that I would like to open our roundtable talk.

[Bovin] The conversation held in Vienna was quite an interesting one. Many questions were touched upon, including Central America and the Middle East, but at the center of attention, of course, were the Geneva talks on arms reduction and limitation. The conversation was a very detailed one, essentially rich in content, but of course also difficult. It was difficult because there is now the real problem of the unconstructive U.S. approach to the talks. In principle the U.S. approach is based on positions that we cannot accept. The Americans' starting point is that there exists a strategic imbalance and the Soviet Union has military-strategic superiority over the United States. If that is the case, then every specific U.S. proposal will without fail be asymmetrical in nature; in other words, since we have the superiority, we should make greater reductions than the Americans.

[Shishlin] We should stipulate, though, that it is the Americans who are alleging that we have the superiority.

[Bovin] Yes, naturally, and we cannot agree with such an approach. Another fundamental issue is the problem of "star wars." In our view, it is quite impossible to talk and try to reach agreement on reducing and limiting any arms, no matter what type of arms in this case, while a program is being maintained which essentially means transferring the arms race into space. We cannot agree with such an approach and consider it to be ruinous, destabilizing, and fraught with the most negative consequences. For the time being there is no way that we can explain this, so to speak, to the Americans. The Americans for the time being are rigid, just rigid, in this attitude.

[Tsvetov] Evidently there is a difference also in the criteria of approach to the talks themselves. Our criterion, not only at these talks, but in general at any talks on disarmament, is equality and equal security, in other words, an honest approach to the interests of our partner in the talks. On the other hand, we insist on the same honest approach to our interests. Also, the honesty of the Soviet side's attitude in fact lies primarily in the fact that we show concern for the equality and equal security of both participants in the talks, and secondly that we honestly observe the accords on the subject and the aims of the talks. I will remind our listeners that before the talks started in Geneva, when Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko had his first meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, it was agreed that the talks would focus on the interconnected questions of nuclear and space weapons, and that the aim of the talks would be to prevent the militarization of space and end the arms race on earth.

[Shishlin] I should like to add something to what has been said. I think that one has to take into account the backdrop against which the new Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva are taking place and assess the rather dramatic effect on the situation that is arising.

This year for the first time, mankind is reaching a level of military expenditure of more than $1 trillion. Of course, the prime cause of this dismal record is in fact the U.S. military plans and the orientation of the U.S. Administration toward achieving military superiority over the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact which are actually giving rise to more and more spirals in this endless arms race. That is one aspect of the matter. The other aspect, which you have already spoken of here, and I absolutely share that view, is the problem of "star wars." Only very recently U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger gave an interview to THE WASHINGTON POST. What did he say there in his search for an argument in favor of this "star wars" plan? It's interesting. He said no more, and no less, than the following: The Strategic Defense Initiative is not an arms race; it is not a matter of arms at all, or even weapons. It is a harmless means of destroying weapons. There are no weapons, he said.

[Bovin] In general, you don't even have to be an expert to understand that such hardware can operate over a wide spectrum. The fact that such a device can be used to bring down a missile or a satellite, and thus also be used to strike targets on earth, does not bear out Weinberger's logic here.

[Shishlin] It just confirms yet again that overall, the United States today is really not aiming at honest agreement based on the principle of equality and equal security of the sides; in fact, the line is to outwit their partner somehow. In such a sensitive sphere as questions of defense, however, these attempts are absolutely hopeless.

[Tsvetov] In order to create an atmosphere in which mutually acceptable solutions would be possible, the Soviet Union has come out with a whole set of important initiatives. Thus, the Soviet Union unilaterally suspended the deployment of its medium-range missiles in Europe and other countermeasures. As far as strategic offensive weapons are concerned, the Soviet Union is proposing, as before, that they be reduced by one-quarter and then go over later to the most key reduction in them. Finally, the USSR has proposed that a mutual and all-encompassing moratorium be put on the creation and deployment of nuclear and space weapons. So while the Soviet Union is striving in all sincerity for solutions to be achieved in Geneva that would stop the arms race on earth and prevent an arms race in space, it is far from possible to see such sincerity in the attitude of the United States. The negative U.S. attitude toward Soviet initiatives made in all three areas of the Geneva talks is in fact evidence of this insincerity in U.S. policy.

[Shishlin] In connection with the problem we are discussing, there is one other noteworthy circumstance, and returning to what you were saying, Vladimir Yakovlevich, about the visit by Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko to the Austrian capital, there are two circumstances, I think, which are striking. First there is the definite difference between the content of the conversations that Andrey Andreyevich had with the West European foreign ministers, and the one that he had with the U.S. secretary of state. It seems to me that even from the meager reports that were published on the discussion of vital international problems with the West European foreign ministers, those talks were more fruitful and ended with greater results. The second circumstance I would like to mention is that, while the Soviet assessments of the first round in the new Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva state on the whole soberly and strictly that the results of that round are fairly dismal, the Americans, it seems to me, are deliberately introducing some sort of optimistic note, so to speak, into what lies ahead of those talks. In any event, Nitze, the U.S. Administration's consultant on nuclear arms talks, literally told the NATO foreign ministers just a couple of days ago that the chances of the United States and the Soviet Union signing an agreement on nuclear arms are greater now than ever before.

[Bovin] Well, that's natural, because they have been shouting and screaming all the time that "our hard line has brought the Russians to the negotiating table, and our hard line will force them to come to an agreement with us." In fact, their optimism now has the aim of justifying this completely groundless formulation.

[Shishlin] Yes, I think that here there is also some sort of response to the overall quite dismal results of the visit by the U.S. President to Western Europe, in order to make up for the unfavorable reaction, the unfavorable response to that visit.

[Bovin] I think we could conclude this Vienna and Geneva topic with the following rather interesting comment from the latest issue of the French magazine MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE, which carries an article by Professor (Norman Bernbaum), professor of sociology at Georgetown University in the United States. The article ends with the passage:

A judicious study of the international situation is a gigantic job, a task which the administration is simply not capable of carrying out, writes Professor (Bernbaum). The idea that President Reagan has now decided to hold talks on arms control is absurd; he has reappointed for the talks the same officials who for 4 years showed an aptitude for blocking or sabotaging these talks. Reagan himself continues to hope for the possibility of U.S. strategic nuclear superiority.

Well, this seems to me to express the gist of the matter rather precisely.

[Tsvetov] The next round of talks between the USSR and the United States on nuclear and space armaments is to start in Geneva on May 30th. What the U.S. delegation brings to Geneva this time is very important. Will Washington bring its position at the talks into line with political and military realities; will it be able to renounce its fruitless attempts to acquire military superiority over the Soviet Union; will Washington demonstrate sober-mindedness and political will; and, most important no doubt, will it adopt a position of honesty during the talks? This will determine whether Geneva becomes a turning point at which the world will at last move toward disarmament. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it will do everything it can to ensure the success of the talks.

Stockholm Conference

I should now like to move on to another international problem of no lesser importance. The latest session of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe reconvened in Stockholm on May 14th. Let me recall that 33 European countries, the United States, and Canada are taking part in the conference. When the previous session of the conference ended, the session participants were discussing the main provisions of a treaty on the mutual non-use of force and the maintenance of peaceful relations, proposed by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

Let me remind listeners of the gist of these main provisions: First, not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons against one another; that is, not to use force at all. Next, not to use force against third countries. Third, to avert a space armaments race. Fourth, to halt [as heard] nuclear and conventional armaments. Fifth, to limit and reduce armaments and to effect disarmament on the basis of the principle of equality, equilibrium, reciprocity, and equal respect for each other's security interests.

[Bovin] I daresay we ought to explain to the comrades listening to us that many different proposals have been voiced in Stockholm by the Warsaw Pact countries, the NATO countries, and the nonaligned and neutral countries, but all these proposals can be grouped into two categories, so to speak. On the one hand, there are proposals that have a broad political impact, such as...

[Tsvetov, interrupting] The main provisions on the non-use of force and the maintenance of peaceful relations.

[Bovin] Yes, the main provisions on the non-use of force. The second group, so to speak, consists of proposals of a purely technical, military nature. To simplify the situation just a little, the Americans, for instance, place the emphasis above all on these technical, military things. Even in that aspect, however, the main thing for them is verification. They are in fact more eager to talk not about what should be reduced or limited, but above all about how this ought to be verified. The problem of verification itself is, naturally, an important problem, but it should not be put before what should be verified. The Americans do all they can to push topics of a broad political nature into the background. As far as our own position is concerned, we attempt in fact to combine these broad political obligations which the sides ought to assume to increase mutual confidence, on the one hand, with, on the other, some kind of measures of a narrower technical military nature which could also build confidence, such as inviting observers to maneuvers, fixing the troop strengths taking part....

[Tsvetov, interrupting] Limiting the scale of military maneuvers.

[Bovin] Yes, yes, yes. So we are trying to adopt a comprehensive approach to this matter.

[Tsvetov] Speaking just prior to the opening of the latest session of the conference, Reagan announced that, pooling their efforts at Stockholm, the NATO countries had put forward a series of concrete confidence-building measures designed to make military activity in Europe more predictable and more stable. At the same time, the socialist countries' proposals would in the final analysis eliminate all military activity in Europe. Here we have two different approaches, one of which aims to make military activity in Europe more predictable and more stable, but which will essentially leave it where it is and the other approach of renouncing all military activity on the continent altogether in the future, in the long term.

[Shishlin] Yes, but on the subject of these technical military measures, one should not omit noting that in proposing these measures the Americans are disregarding the also quite specific proposals for strengthening and broadening confidence-building measures being put forward by the socialist countries, and they are advancing the idea that these verification and confidence-building measures should be geographically confined to the European zone; naturally, this includes Soviet territory as far as the Urals. At the same time, in the Americans' own territory, where the strategic fist of the NATO bloc is essentially concentrated, would be quite outside the zone of both verification and any sort of verification measures.

The proceedings of the Stockholm conference time and again pose the issue of the necessity of establishing a climate of confidence and of overcoming the suspicion and hostility which is cultivated by this policy of attaining military superiority, the policy of trying to outwit and dupe one's negotiating partner. This policy has no future. And it seems to me that these questions have a particularly insistent ring now as the 10th anniversary of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which was crowned with the famous Helsinki Final Act, approaches.

Reaction to Nicaragua Sanctions

[Tsvetov] The attention of the whole world is currently riveted on Central America. The point is, as our listeners are aware, that the United States has declared an economic blockade against the sovereign state of Nicaragua. This act is quite justifiably being described as an act of state terrorism, as the flouting of the norms of international law. After the suppression of freedom on Grenada, the escalation of U.S. aggression against Nicaragua now represents the most dangerous U.S. actions in this region.

[Bovin] Well, the Americans have now clearly got their fingers burned with these economic sanctions of theirs, because, leaving Latin American aside, even the U.S. NATO allies have failed to all intents and purposes, to back them. What happened in the European Parliament in Strasbourg, where Reagan made his speech, by the way, is very interesting: the socialists and communists proposed that economic aid to Nicaragua be stepped up to make up for the U.S. sanctions. There were heated debates, and the parliament rejected the proposal. But look what the voting was -- 119 against, 116 in favor and 4 abstentions.

[Shishlin] Let me just add that the Commission of the European Communities, not a parliament, but an institution which does to some extent decide things, did in fact adopt a decision to double aid to the countries of Central America, including Nicaragua.

[Bovin] So what we see, in fact, is Western Europe throwing down an open challenge to the Americans. Here is another rather interesting thing. Take Honduras, the U.S. number one puppet, you would think, what with the maneuvers and everything else that goes on there. Well, Honduras suddenly decides to restrict the activity of the contras: the camps of the contras have now been surrounded by Honduran troops, artillery and tanks, and they are disarming these contras and destroying their camps. Reagan has now invited Suazo Cordova, the president of Honduras, to visit the United States, the papers say. This will no doubt be among the topics under discussion. This is the interesting position taken by Honduras.

[Shishlin] To complete the picture, a session of the Council of the Latin American Economic System held in Caracas recently called on the United States to lift its trade embargo on Nicaragua and voiced the necessity of drawing up economic measures to help the Nicaraguan Government. This too is characteristic.

[Tsvetov] One can also judge the degree of unpopularity of this Reagan administration measure from the positions of France and Spain: France has declared quite clearly and openly its disagreement with the economic blockage, Spain has emphasized that it will continue to carry out its policy of aid and trade with Nicaragua, and even Japan, which always supports the United States on almost all political international issues, even it has stated that it "does understand" the administration's actions, but will not associate itself with these actions.

[Shishlin] In this connection, it is worthwhile remembering the hysteria evoked in the United States by the visit of Daniel Ortega, the Nicaraguan president, to the Soviet Union, although in my opinion it is quite clear to members of the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives that the Soviet Union does not have any specific economic interests there. However, the Soviet Union really does have an interest in the fact that international relations should exclude violence by the strong against the weak, that the laws of diktat, violence, and trampling on independent sovereign states should not rule in international relations, inasmuch as this issue does not relate only to the fate of Nicaragua and the fate of the Sandinist revolution -- this issue relates to both the fates of Latin America and the world as a whole, because a reprisal against Nicaragua would throw back international relations a long way, and the consequences of this would be ill-omened, to be sure.

[Tsvetov] One cannot rule out the fact that the economic sanctions undertaken by the United States against Nicaragua will affect the economy and the management of this country, inasmuch as Nicaragua's economy was tied to trade with the United States for a long time. However, judging by those reports from Nicaragua, the people of this country, and the Sandinists who are in power in this country, are ready to meet the U.S. challenge and are ready to oppose it.

Incidentally, 18 May is the 10th anniversary of the birth of Augusto Sandino who headed the Nicaraguans' liberation struggle against the U.S. imperialists at the end of the twenties and the beginning of the thirties, and the insurgent organization which has currently come to power in Nicaragua bears his name to this day. Under the conditions of that upsurge currently in evidence in that country, one can hope that the U.S. economic sanctions, for all the gravity and all the complexity of the situation currently unfolding, will not break the people of this country. I have in my hands the text of the statement from the Nicaraguan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It says, in particular, and I quote: The U.S. Administration is striving by all possible means to overthrow the revolutionary Government of Nicaragua, to reestablish a neocolonialist regime in this country, and to deprive the Nicaraguan people of their most sacred rights. It is with this aim that a counterrevolutionary hired army was patched together and trained and armed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. This army destroys production centers, bridges, agricultural and construction machinery; it constantly practices the abduction, torture and murder of women, old people and children, unquote. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry statement goes on to say, quote: All of these criminal actions, which violate elementary principles and norms of international law and morality, have run against the firm will and resolve of the Nicaraguan people to defend their right to independence, freedom and self-determination at any price. The U.S. attempts to bring the Sandinist revolution to its knees with the aid of a hired army have met utter failure. The decision has therefore been made in Washington to initiate economic aggression against Nicaragua and to stifle the revolution by hunger, unquote. Now Augusto Sandino struggled against U.S. imperialism under the slogan "Free fatherland or death!" and the statement by the Nicaraguan Ministry of Foreign Affairs ends with the words that are just as resolute, quote: The Government of Nicaragua declares its inexorable will to continue to struggle in defense of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Nicaraguan nation, unquote.

[Bovin] Well, 10 years since the Americans were driven out of Vietnam have just been marked, and in connection with this the following thought comes to mind: The Americans are great masters at digging this kind of hole, climbing in, and then spending a long time coming out of it. This they did very well in Vietnam, and now they are currently repeating the same thing in Nicaragua.

Policy Toward Developing Countries

[Shishlin] Perhaps, all the same, the events per se around Nicaragua, connected with this imperial policy of the United States, attract intent attention to the problems of developing states in general, which really do run into both the plundering policy and military pressure of imperialism. There is also the problem of a gigantic debt, and the problem of the strengthening of the economic and political independence of these states, which concerns not only these countries, but which is of vital interest for the whole of humanity.

[Bovin] Therefore the positions of such countries, for example, as India, Indonesia and Brazil are of such huge significance, all these giants of the Third World; their development will in many ways determine what takes place in the first half of the 21st century. I have recalled this in connection with the fact that Rajiv Gandhi, the prime minister of India, should be arriving in Moscow in 2 days' time.

[Tsvetov] Rajiv Gandhi represents probably the leading country of this huge conglomeration of states which are usually called the developing countries. The developing countries, with all the diversity of their political structures, with all the diversity of their economic situations, are nevertheless united by one thing, that is, the struggle for peace, independence, disarmament and development.

Here, if we take two policies -- that of the United States and that of the Soviet Union in relation to the developing countries -- then it is clear to what extent our positions in relation to the developing countries are diametrically opposed. The Soviet Union is striving to help the developing countries to find economic independence in addition to the political independence they have already gained; the United States is hindering the gaining of economic independence, and moreover is striving to draw the developing countries into the orbit of their military-strategic plans.

USSR-India Relations

[Bovin] It is very noticeable in relation to India, because, for instance, the policy of the Soviet Union is friendly toward India, and is constantly directed at helping India find its own industrial structure, to stand on its own two feet, to go forward; the policy of the Americans, who have always attempted to knock India off the path it has chosen, is to arm India's enemies -- take Pakistan, in particular. All this is quite clear.

[Shishlin] I think that we can expect much from this visit, because there is a very good basis for a politically rich dialogue, for an enrichment in our economic ties -- they are genuinely broad -- an increase in those spiritual bonds which tie us as neighboring countries, and an increase in the joint Soviet-Indian contribution to the improvement of the world political climate.

[Tsvetov] Regarding the basis of Soviet-Indian relations which you, Nikolay Vladimirovich, have just spoken about, I would like to quote the Indian NATIONAL HERALD newspaper. It writes, quote: The visit of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to the Soviet Union will be his first official trip abroad in his capacity as prime minister. Having chosen such a visit to a country which has been a long-standing and faithful friend who has supported India through all the vicissitudes of fate, he has given the tradition introduced by Mrs. Indira Gandhi its due, unquote. This article goes on to say, quote: With the help of the Soviet Union, India has gradually transformed itself from a country exporting raw materials into a country exporting finished goods. This has turned out to be possible owing to the fact that the USSR has transformed itself from being an importer of raw materials into an importer of finished goods such as those, unquote. In other words, the Soviet Union has undertaken everything so that India could lay the foundation of its economic independence.

[Bovin] I think it is precisely these meetings and talks that will currently take place in Moscow that will prolong this line, a constructive line, a line towards the development of Soviet-Indian cooperation, which is important not just from the viewpoint of our two countries, but as it has already rightly been said here, from the viewpoint of strengthening the forces of peace and progress in the whole world.

[Tsvetov] On this note, I want to end our talk at the roundtable, all the best to you.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Commentator Vyacheslav Lavrentyev, with TASS political observer Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin]

[Excerpts] [Lavrentyev] The problem of Soviet-U.S. relations is touched upon more often than others in the letters received at the editorial offices.

These letters support the precise and principled course of the Soviet Government, which is aimed at easing the international situation and curbing the arms race. At the same time, radio listeners raise the legitimate question: Why is it that the U.S. Administration, while apparently expressing the desire for peace in what it says, aggravates relations in what it does, starting a new twist in the arms race, on this occasion one in space? Comrade (Skalkin) from Rostov-on-Don asks the following question: Why does the Reagan administration hold so stubbornly to the Strategic Defense Initiative, the so-called "star wars" program? I have asked Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin, TASS political observer, to reply to this and to a number of other questions. If your please, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich:

Strategic Defense Initiative

[Shishkin] The quite obvious desire of the United States of America to rush into space with the very latest type of weapons by whatever means, at an expenditure running into many billions, is indicative of just one thing: that over there they still want to achieve a dominating position in the world. Having got as far as the levers of state, the representatives of the extreme reactionary forces of the United States are still dreaming of social revenge, striving to replay history and establish their domination over the world. The aggressive aspirations of the U.S. ruling elite is displayed in attempts to undermine the military strategic balance, that foundation of international security; in the spiralling of the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race; and in the dangerous plans for the militarization of outer space. The efforts of those who advocate and organize "star wars" run in two directions: along the road of creating antisatellite defense based in space and on earth.

Both of these directions are closely linked with each other. The destruction of the other side's satellites in order to cripple it has always been viewed by the Pentagon as a most important and integral part of the sudden first strike. In the thinking of the Washington strategists, it is the job of a vast antimissile system to oppose the other side's retaliatory strike, weakened by a U.S. nuclear attack. In this, those Americans who pass themselves off as strategists are proceeding from the false premise that the Soviet Union will supposedly be unable to keep up with the United States in its plans for the militarization of outer space. Hence the arrogant statements made by highly placed figures who are vying with each other in making assertions about the need for the United States to adopt a hard-line and unyielding position at the Geneva talks, particularly as regards the U.S. "star wars" plans, that is to say the use of space for military purposes.

The hot-heads in Washington should remember what the reality of the current situation in the world amounts to. It amounts to this: Military-strategic parity exists between the Soviet Union and the United States, that is to say an approximate equality of strengths. The Soviet Union is not striving for military supremacy, but of course it will not permit anyone to upset the parity that has come into being to the detriment of its own security. This was stressed again with complete resolve and firmness at our party's Central Committee April Plenum and also during the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the great victory over German fascism. Washington should know if some people over there want to transform space into a fighting arena in the hope of dictating their will to other states, then the Soviet Union's reply will be as follows: The plans for achieving military superiority will not be able to be realized, either on earth or in space. Calculations upon being able to take cover behind an antimissile shield against retribution for aggression are an illusion.

The openly militaristic course of the United States and its obstructionist line at the Geneva talks have given rise to concern among the NATO partners, too, and among broad sections of the population of Western Europe -- and also among the American people itself. Quite indicative from this point of view is a recent statement by Baker, an eminent American scientist in the field of nuclear physics, who took part in the program for the creation of atomic weapons by the United States.

The history of the past 40 years, the American scientist stressed, shows that the Soviet Union has been able to put up retaliatory measures against any technological innovation of the United States in the nuclear arms field. Each new twist in the arms race makes the security of the United States more and more fragile.

Missile Moratorium, Geneva Talks

[Lavrentyev] Gennadiy Arkadiyevich: Viktor Alekseyevich Pomerantsev, a party and labor veteran from Penza asks: How did Washington react to our initiative on the moratorium on the deployment of medium-range means in Europe?

[Shishkin] The practical and highly constructive step by our country was given its due by many sober-minded American and West European politicians. It did not, however, receive a positive reaction in return in Washington. At the same time, it is perfectly obvious that if they approached the appraisal of this Soviet initiative more seriously and more thoughtfully in the U.S. capital, and if, for their own part, they displayed restraint in the question of the deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe, then this would help to put the Geneva talks onto the level of practical solutions and to play its own part in the settlement of other more complex problems, too.

However, the first stage of the Geneva talks, which has already ended, provides all the grounds for drawing the conclusion that Washington is on a course that is not toward an accord with the Soviet Union. This is obvious, if only from the fact that it is totally refusing to discuss the question of the nonextension of the arms race to outer space simultaneously with discussion of the question of nuclear weapons limitation and reduction. As recently as 14 May, U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger, replying to the question of whether the administration intends to change its position toward the "star wars" program, stated cynically: I consider that from all points of view it is essential for us to continue work on this program. It is for this very reason that the President is filled with such resolve not to give up this program in exchange for concessions from the Soviet side, and not to stop our research on this program under any circumstances.

Statements of this kind, and not just statements, but concrete deeds and concrete behavior of the Americans at the Geneva talks, cannot be viewed other than as a violation by the United States of America of the understanding reached in January about the interconnection of three directions: prevention of the arms race in space; reduction of strategic nuclear armaments; and reduction of medium-range nuclear armaments in Europe. As we see, it is both easy and difficult to answer the question: Will a Soviet-U.S. bridge be built? It is easy because both logic and good sense and the lessons of the war are pushing the two sides onto the path of normalizing their relations and developing cooperation. It is difficult because influential forces still remain in the United States that are trying in vain to settle by military means the historic dispute between the two social systems.

Soviet-U.S. Relations

[Lavrentyev] A final question for you, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich, and a more general one. Boris Andreyevich Zhilkin, a war veteran and one of our regular listeners who comes from the village of (Sredniy Khrashovets) in Kursk Oblast, asks: What must be done for good relations to be established between the USSR and the United States?

[Shishkin] In replying to this question I would first of all like to dwell on the enormous positive influence for reducing the military threat that would be exerted by the normalization of Soviet-U.S. relations and the development of Soviet-U.S. cooperation.

At the present time, when it is not only individual countries and peoples but the whole world that is faced with a real threat of destruction in a thermonuclear disaster, all states, both large and small, must of course take part in the search for realistic solutions to the acute problems of the present day and the lessening of international tension. There is a special role here that belongs first and foremost to the Soviet Union and the United States. For it is precisely in the arsenals of these two countries that the fantastic forces of destruction capable of destroying everything living upon earth many times over are concentrated. Alongside this destructive potential, an enormous potential for peace has been built up over the 40 years that have passed since the end of the Great Patriotic War -- a multi-faceted, and quite historic potential to put Soviet-U.S. relations onto constructive lines now.

So what, then, must be done first of all in order to bring Soviet-U.S. relations out of the ice age in which they have found themselves? A reply of principle to this question was given by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the Central Committee April Plenum. He said: If one considers both the positive and the negative experience which has been built up by the history of Soviet-U.S. relations, by the history both of distant and recent times, then one has to say that the most sensible thing is to seek ways that lead toward the straightening out of relations, to build a bridge of cooperation, but building it from both sides. In Washington, too, from time to time they now make vague statements about their readiness for a meeting at summit level and about the desire for peace. However, it is also evident that there is a very substantial difference between the approaches of Moscow and Washington to the question of building a bridge.

In Moscow they do not confine themselves to wordy appeals; they back them up with concrete deeds and initiatives. It is sufficient to recall that the Soviet Union has already proposed concretely and clearly that all nuclear powers should follow the Soviet Union's example and undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons; to freeze nuclear arsenals of all nuclear powers, beginning with the USSR and the United States, both as regards quantity and quality, in order to proceed further without delay toward the reduction of these armaments, going so far as to eliminate them completely; to conclude a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace between member-states of the Warsaw Pact and the member-states of NATO and between all participants in the all-European conference; to reach agreement on a complete and universal ban on the testing of nuclear weapons; and finally, providing an example of goodwill and striving to promote the success of the Geneva talks on space and nuclear armaments, the Soviet Union has halted unilaterally the deployment of medium-range missiles and the implementation of other retaliatory measures in Europe. This moratorium was put into operation on 7 April.

Shultz-Gromyko Meeting

The question of what has to be done further in order to get the normalization of Soviet-American relations moving was also discussed at the meeting in Vienna on 14 May between Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz. During the discussion that took place then, the Soviet side stressed the need for energetic efforts with the object of halting the development of unfavorable tendencies in world affairs and bringing about a turn for the better in Soviet-U.S. relations.

In this connection, a critical appraisal was made of the general course of Washington's policy, primarily on the security issue, and concern was expressed about the unconstructive position of the U.S. side at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms. Comrade Gromyko stressed the need to strictly adhere to the understanding reached in January on the subject and purpose of the Geneva talks, which envisages interlinked examination and solution of questions on preventing an arms race in space and halting the arms race on earth.

Implementation of the proposal put forward by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the establishment of a mutual and all-embracing moratorium on the development and deployment of nuclear and space armaments might become an important first step at the Geneva talks. The U.S. side's attitude toward a moratorium of this kind will serve as an indicator of the direction of its policy and its intentions in the military field, Comrade Gromyko noted.

Afghan Counterrevolution

[Lavrentyev] Here is a reply for Comrade Ivanov from Kiev. In his letter he asks about the situation in Afghanistan and around that country. As you know, esteemed Comrade Ivanov, the Afghan people recently celebrated the 7th anniversary of the April Revolution. These have been years of strengthening the young republic of people's power, years of consolidation by the population around the ruling People's Democratic Party, years of growth in its authority. The process of progressive social and economic reforms in the towns and in the countryside has been started successfully in the country, in the interests of all working people. At the same time, the 7-year period which has just ended has been a period of bitter and bloody struggle against counterrevolution and against all those who have been deprived by the April Revolution of the possibility of living a parasitic way of life, and who therefore hate the new order in the country fiercely.

Of course, this struggle is certainly bringing its results. At the present time, the bandits feel nothing like as free as they did at the beginning. There are fewer and fewer among the population who believe their demagogic slogans about defending Islam and so on. Ordinary Afghans prefer peaceful labor for the well-being of the homeland to these slogans. More and more often reports are being received about successful operations by Afghanistan's Armed Forces against bandit groups. For example, literally days ago two such groups were smashed in the Provinces of Takhar and Badghis.

The number of those who are putting an end to their subversive activity and surrendering voluntarily to the authorities is growing. Not long ago, for example, many members of bandit formations in the Provinces of Herat and Baghlan laid down their arms. Nevertheless, as you write correctly, the struggle against the dushmans is still far from finished. With their terrorist acts, their explosions, burnings and killings they are doing substantial damage to the republic's national economy and are putting a brake on its movement forward.

What is the reason for the durability of the counterrevolution? First and foremost, it lies in the fact that we are dealing not with simply individual groups of terrorists and killers: They are merely people executing a wide plot by hostile external forces who are waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan. The United States and a number of other NATO countries, Pakistan, and some reactionary Arab regimes are financing and supplying the latest weapons and directing the activities of the dushmans. From the other side of the ocean alone, the bandits receive hundreds of millions of dollars and in Washington they do not hide the fact that they intend to continue to support them.

As you know, these resources have been used to create more than 100 special camps and bases in Pakistan, where American and Pakistani instructors train their charges in the art of terror; put into their hands automatic weapons, bombs, mines, and infiltrate then into Afghan territory. It is there, too, in Pakistan, that the bandits hide after their criminal raids. The Afghan people, therefore, are waging a heroic and difficult struggle which is virtually against not a band of counterrevolutionaries: let me repeat, it is being confronted by the broad front of imperialist and other reactionary circles.

Situation in Sudan

[Lavrentyev] A number of our listeners ask about the situation in the Sudan after the coup d'etat that took place there, about the nature of the changes in this country and the prospects for Soviet-Sudanese relations. Comrade Mikhail Semenovich Slobodin from Ust-Labinsk, Krasnodar Kray and Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Tyutrin from Orekhovo-Zuyeva ask us about this. Here is an answer for them. The situation in Sudan following the coup d'etat of 6 April, which led to the overthrow of the Numayri reactionary regime has, overall, returned to normal. The new military leadership which has come to power by all accounts enjoys the confidence and the support of the broad masses of the country's population. It operates in close contact with various Sudanese political parties and trade unions. True, tension remains in the southern parts of the state, where rebels fighting for the autonomy of the south have not yet laid down their arms. The settlement of this conflict, which came about as a result of the previous regime's policy, is now one of the foremost tasks facing the new authorities of the republic. It has to be said that they have already done a great deal in eliminating the consequences of Numayri rule and democratizing the public and political life. In particular, the Sudanese Socialist Union, the only political party under Numayri, the security service of the overthrown president, and the parliament, which served as a cover for the complete absence of democracy in the country, have been dissolved. All members of the former government and other highly placed officials of the former regime have been arrested. They will be brought to trial. At the same time, political prisoners have been freed and the ban on the activity of political organizations, including the Communist Party, has been lifted. The Union of National Forces for the Salvation of Sudan, which was created during mass demonstrations by the Sudanese against the Numayri antipopular clique, is playing an increasingly noticeable role. It brings together trade unions, a number of parties previously banned, including the Communist Party, and the Khartoum University Students' Union. It is indicative that it is indeed the chairman of the bloc of democratic forces, Al-Jazuli Daf'allah, who has been appointed head of the Sudanese transitional government, which has been formed mainly from among civilians. It is the supreme executive organ. The supreme legislative power is concentrated in the hands of the Transitional Military Council, the chairman of which is Colonel General Siwar al-Dhahab, who carries out the functions of head of state. He has stated that when the 12-month transitional period expires, free elections will be held in Sudan, after which the military will hand over all power to a civilian government. In the field of foreign affairs, Siwar al-Dhahab has declared that Sudan adheres to the principles of nonalignment and the UN Charter, and has spoken in favor of improving relations with all countries, primarily neighboring ones. Concrete steps have already been tkan in this direction. Diplomatic relations have been established with Libya, and a constructive dialogue has been started on the normalization of relations with Ethiopia. As far as prospects for Soviet-Sudanese relations are concerned, the changes that have taken place in Sudan are creating good prospects for their all-around development to the benefit of both sides. Furthermore, in a recent discussion with Soviet journalists the new Sudanese leader expressed an interest in maintaining friendly relations with the Soviet Union.

USSR WW II APPEAL CIRCULATED AS UN DOCUMENT

LD161814 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 16 May 85

[Text] New York May 16 TASS -- A text of the apeal of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers "To Peoples, Parliaments and Governments of All the Countries" on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II has been circulated at the U.N. as an official document of the U.N. General Assembly. The appeal contains a passionate call for stopping through active joint efforts the sliding down into the abyss of a nuclear war, for blocking the way to a new war, for working for a complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

GORBACHEV MEETS BALDRIGE, NOTES POOR TRADE LINKS

PM211018 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 May 85 Second Edition p 1

["M.S. Gorbachev's Talk With the U.S. Trade Secretary"]

[Text] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received in the Kremlin on 20 May U.S. Secretary of Commerce Baldrige, in Moscow as the head of a U.S. delegation at a session of the intergovernmental Soviet-U.S. Commission on Trade Questions, and held a conversation with him. The following also took part: USSR Foreign Trade Minister Patolichev, head of the USSR delegation at the session of that commission; Hartmann, the U.S. ambassador to the USSR; and Matlock, member of the White House staff.

Secretary Baldrige conveyed to Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev a letter from U.S. President Reagan, which expresses in general terms a desire for the expansion of trade between the United States and the USSR.

M.S. Gorbachev noted that the unsatisfactory state of Soviet-U.S. trade and economic links at the present time is the result of the policy of discrimination against the Soviet Union conducted by the U.S. Administration, and of the attempts to interfere in its internal affairs and to use trade as a method of political pressure. In general, this state of affairs concerning trade and economic links, M.S. Gorbachev stressed, is the result of the complex and tense political relations that have come about in recent years between the two countries.

The Soviet Union does not want such a state of relations and has not contributed to its coming about. We are in favor of stable relations with the United States based on equality and respect for each other's legitimate interests. A policy of confrontation, which has already suffered failure in the recent past, is particularly dangerous in the current situation, for it entails a threat of disastrous consequences for many peoples, including the American people.

At the same time, experience shows that objective preconditions exist for effective, mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and the United States in various areas. The conclusion inevitably arises that it is time to unfreeze the potential for Soviet-U.S. cooperation and to freeze, or, more precisely, to curtail, the arms race and the escalation of hostilities. Business links between the two countries can play their role on this level. There are possibilities for this, but only on the basis of equality, mutual benefit, and without any discrimination. The main thing is the restoration of a climate of mutual trust in relations between our countries. Certain other aspects of Soviet-U.S. relations were also discussed.

HONDURAS' SUAZO IN U.S. TO DISCUSS MORE AID

LD201441 Moscow TASS in English 1411 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS - TASS commentator Vadim Kovalev writes: Following Napoleon Duarte who is the U.S. puppet in El Salvador, Roberto Suazo, head of the Honduran regime, came to Washington Sunday. According to press reports, he will hold talks with President Reagan and other representatives of the U.S. Administration at which the sides will discuss questions connected with the expansion of U.S. economic and military assistance to Honduras.

R. Suazo is going to ask his American patrons to give him three billion dollars in the coming four years.

In his opinion, this is the price of turning Honduras into a U.S. place d'armes in Central America which the U.S. uses for suppressing national liberation movements in the region. At the same time, the Honduran dictator wants the U.S. to modernize his armed forces, notwithstanding the fact that the Honduran Air Force is the most numerous in the region.

One cannot fail to notice that visits of the U.S. puppets are taking place against the background of the unrestrained anti-Nicaraguan campaign of slander. Attempts are made to accuse the Sandinista republic of "posing a threat" to its neighbours, and for this reason joint efforts are allegedly necessary for protecting the security of Honduras and El Salvador. The talks which are under way in Washington are undoubtedly spearheaded against Nicaragua. Washington makes no secret of the fact that the final objective of the U.S. Administration is to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government. The CIA and the Pentagon are busy these days trying to invent a suitable pretext for starting an invasion of Nicaragua. According to the Minister of National Defense of Nicaragua Humberto Ortega, a massive invasion of Nicaragua by American mercenaries from the Honduran territory can be expected in the coming weeks.

The visits to the U.S. of Napoleon Duarte and Roberto Suazo show that the White House does not give up its attempts to settle the Central American problems by military means and opposes the will of the majority of countries which support the efforts of the Contadora Group aimed at a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

O'NEILL URGES RESUMPTION OF TALKS WITH NICARAGUA

LD202321 Moscow TASS in English 2301 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] New York May 21 TASS -- Thomas O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, urged the White House to resume bilateral talks with Nicaragua broken off by Washington. Speaking at Tufts University, he said that the Nicaraguan Government made a proposal to that effect and that the United States should immediately accept it.

PRAVDA ARTICLE ON U.S. LINKS TO BEIRUT BOMBURG

PM191830 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Andrey Stepanov's "Commentator's Column": "Terrorism in Action"]

[Text] As THE WASHINGTON POST has reported, at the end of last year U.S. President Reagan approved a secret CIA operation. The creation of several special subunits was envisaged, designed "to make counterterrorist strikes" (that is what official Washington calls fighters against imperialist oppression). Moreover, these strikes were to be "preemptive."

In March of this year one of these subunits, brought up to strength with CIA agents, carried out its first operation. A powerful bomb was exploded at the headquarters of a Shi'ite Muslim leader in one of Beirut's suburbs. More than 80 people died and 200 were injured.

Now that the criminal act of the Washington terrorists has become public knowledge, the administration has started to be evasive. The press has carried White House-inspired reports that the explosition had not allegedly received official sanction and that the continuation of the operation was abandoned. However, the authorities' clumsy attempts to justify themselves and exonerate themselves of the crime convinced nobody. Under the pressure of the scandalous evidence, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence has started an investigation into CIA operations in general and the Beirut operation in particular.

Whatever the case, the explosion in Lebanon has once again torn away the demagogic covers from Washington's policy which, on the pretext of the "struggle against international terrorism," is perpetrating reprisals against national liberation movements and striving to dictate by armed blackmail systems it deems suitable to sovereign states. Against this background statements by high-ranking U.S. figures about the need for such operations to "protect U.S. national security" are the height of cynicism. Such subterfuges are inteded only for simpletons, for they are patently aimed at diverting the public's attention from terrorism that has been elevated to the rank of state policy in the United States.

There is not, nor can there be, any justification for the actions of the Washington administration, which has taken it upon itself to replace right, morality, and legality in the international arena with a gamble on force and claims to total license and arbitrariness.

REAGAN REMARKS SHOW POLICY OF 'STATE TERRORISM'

PM201056 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 May 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "United States: Continuing a Policy of Diktat"]

[Text] Washington, 18 May -- President Reagan has confirmed his administration's intention to continue pursuing in the international arena a policy of state terrorism, diktat, and crude interference in other countries' internal affairs.

Addressing a session of the council of national groups of the Republican Heritage convention, the White House chief stated that the United States "must continue helping" the counterrevolutionary forces in Afghanistan and Nicaragua. It is common knowledge that Washington has launched an undeclared war against the peoples of Nicaragua and Afghanistan aimed at overthrowing those states' lawful governments. Gangs of Somozist remnants recruited by the CIA and presented by the U.S. President as a "resistance movement" are being sent into Nicaraguan territory, where they sow death and destruction. The White House is now intensively working to allocate around $14 million to those cutthroats in the current fiscal year.

The dushman terrorist gangs carrying out bloody raids against the people of free Afghanistan set up their bases on Pakistani territory and operate under the CIA's wing. Just a few days ago, the U.S. Senate, to the White House's clear satisfaction, voted to allocate $15 million in the next fiscal year to maintain the so-called "refugee camps" in Pakistan, which in fact serve as the bandits' strongholds.

The head of the U.S. Administration has also advocated the further stepping up of psychological warfare against the socialist countries. "We," he said "must continue strengthening such institutions as Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe."

USIA PLANS 'SUBVERSIVE PROPAGANDA' AGAINST GDR

LD182334 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1612 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] West Berlin, 18 May (TASS) -- The U.S. propaganda organization, the USIA, operating under CIA supervision, plans to build a television transmitter in West Berlin that will wage a subversive propaganda campaign against the GDR. The local press reports today that the FRG Government is also to take part in setting it up.

The Socialist Unity Party [SED] of West Berlin has protested against Washington's and Bonn's planned subversion against the GDR.

Apart from the fact that the Bonn authorities' participation in the project obviously contravenes the Four Power Agreement on West Berlin, Dietmar Ahrens, deputy chairman of the West Berlin SED, declared here, the U.S. Administration's intention demonstrates that it ignores the spirit and letter of the Helsinki Final Act. As we know, the states that signed that document undertook not to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

It is again becoming obvious that the U.S. Administration is interested not in detente, but in inflaming the "cold war" and mounting subversion, he said.

NAVY CALL FOR U.S. SHIPS IN NORWEGIAN SEA HIT

PM171518 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 May 85 First Edition p 5

[A. Mozgovoy article under the rubric "Disarmament: Who Is Against It?": "Admiral McDonald's 'Ninth Wave'"]

[Text] Admiral Wesley McDonald, commander, U.S. Armed Forces, Atlantic zone, has turned his stern gaze toward Scandinavia or, more accurately, toward Norway. In his opinion, a weak link has formed in the NATO chain there, and must be strengthened without delay. How? By sending squadrons of ships under the stars and stripes to the Norwegian Sea. Otherwise, the admiral maintains, the Russians will have "too great freedom" of action.

Oh this "freedom"! The United States has an unambiguous understanding of it: freedom for it and for no one else. This is why Washington is endeavoring to make the militarist cudgel more weighty and build more military bases all over the world, so as to defend U.S. "vital interests." Concerning W. McDonald's statements, London's THE OBSERVER emphasizes that "the Americans want to pursue a policy of attack from forward lines, and this means the presence of the U.S. Navy in the Norwegian Sea."

U.S. Navy Secretary J. Lehman has formulated the essence of the policy of "attack from forward lines": "We must turn the Soviets into an isolated island so that we can command the rest of the world." This is why the United States, he says, must be able to "blockade and attack the Russian fleet" in Soviet territorial waters. For this it is necessary to move U.S. armadas as close as possible to Soviet shores.

Wesley McDonald has clearly conceived the intention of putting his chef's theoretical arguments into practice. It is, infact, a question of a U.S. attempt to knock together one more operational fleet on a permanent basis, like the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean. It is intended to target this strike force on the Soviet Union. At the same time, Washington intends to tie its NATO allies more tightly to the Pentagon chariot and torpedo the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, which enjoys wide support in Scandinavian countries. U.S. ships are equipped with nuclear weapons, and basing them in Norwegian ports will negate the efforts of supporters of a nuclear-free north.

The U.S. plan is still not popular in Oslo, but Adm McDonald is not thinking of retreating. "Norway will be subjected to strong pressure," he threatens, "and it is quite possible that it will not withstand it."

The admiral has certain grounds for such "optimism." Despite a pledge not to site foreign military bases and nuclear weapons on its territory in peacetime, under pressure from Washington, 5 years ago Norway agreed to make depots available to the U.S. Marine Corps for heavy arms, including howitzers capable of firing nuclear shells.

In addition, U.S. Loran-C and Omega navigation stations are operating in Norway, serving U.S. missile-carrying submarines and strategic aircraft. Wesley McDonald is reckoning even now on achieving success by twisting the junior partner's arm.

Finally, it is necessary to mention another aspect of the "McDonald plan": the tremendous harm which will be done to the efforts for military detente in Europe. At a time when the socialist countries are putting forward far-reaching constructive initiatives to improve the European political climate and strengthen confidence-building measures in the Old World, the United States and its most devoted allies in the North Atlantic alliance are doing everything to prevent this. At the Stockholm conference, the Warsaw Pact states propose a draft treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force, while NATO, according to London's DAILY TELEGRAPH, is doggedly lowering the "threshold" for the use of force. The North Atlantic bloc's headquarters has prepared new instructions "governing the sequence of actions in the event of a conflict at sea." According to this document, "the allies' ships and aircraft are permitted to open fire first under certain circumstances."

What sort of circumstances? Practically any conflict situation. There are more than enough of them arising today through NATO's fault, and any one of them, according to the instruction of the North Atlantic bloc's headquarters, could escalate into a real war. It is not hard to imagine with what consequences the permanent presence in the Norwegian Sea of U.S. ships, whose commanders are furnished with such "instructions," is fraught.

Wesley McDonald's "ninth wave" [traditionally regarded as the biggest and potentially most lethal wave in a stormy sea] is a new attempt at military blackmail against our country. However, the transatlantic adventurers must not forget that such impulses are doomed to failure.

U.S. COUNCIL OF BUSINESSMEN FOR UN VISIT MOSCOW

LD171704 Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS -- A group of representatives of the U.S. public organization Council of Businessmen for the U.N. (U.N. we believe) [as received] stayed in Moscow from May 12 to May 17. It included chairmen and directors of a number of trade-industrial and commercial companies of the U.S.

Representatives of the organization had meetings at the USSR State Planning Committee, the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Institute of the U.S. and Canada of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the Institute of World Economics and International Relations of the USSR Academy of Sciences, as well as at the Soviet U.N. Association.

During the meetings the sides discussed topical problems of Soviet-American trade and economic relations, questions connected with the consolidation of international security and the development of mutual understanding between nations, with the support for the U.N. efforts aimed at the strengthening of peace and the solution of vital problems facing mankind.

Representatives of the Council of Businessmen and the Soviet U.N. Association reached agreement on the continuation and development of bilateral contacts.

L. PONOMAREV EXAMINES FBI'S 'UNLIMITED POWERS'

LD202031 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 20 May 85

["FBI: Empire of Spying and Reprisals" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

There is an agency in the United States which is a sort of state within a state and is at times above state. This is the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), an agency which has unlimited powers.

The U.S. authorities mark on May 21 the 45th anniversary of the granting to that espionage and criminal investigation agency by a special presidential decree of the unlimited right to tap telephone conversations of American citizens, to install special devices to control their way of thinking and private life.

Since that time, particularly in the years of technological progress, the FBI's interference in the lives of Americans assumed such a scope that it can be said confidently that every American is now under the FBI's surveillance. There are files on 34 million Americans and cards with fingerprints of 78 million Americans only in the Washington headquarters of the FBI.

There are on an average 15 secret files per every American in governmental agencies that use the services of the FBI. The spying and surveillance have long since assumed a total character in the USA and can be regarded as typically American as an apple-pie or Kentucky fried chicken. Various departments and services in the USA make a recourse to the FBI materials 360 thousand times a day. They are supplied with information by 64 thousand operational groups of the FBI which has turned into a veritable empire of criminal investigation.

Special targets for the spying and harassment are progressive, democratically-minded citizens and public organisations -- so-called dissidents. Any difference with official views and discontent with any of the aspects of public life are regarded in the USA as "a conspiracy against the state." The FBI agents in the past kept under constant surveillance great scientist-anti-fascist Albert Einstein, writer-humanist Ernest Hemingway, civil rights leader Martin Luther King, and others.

According to the journal PROGRESSIVE, the FBI over the past decades has not only been persecuting dissidents but also plotting to assassinate politicians and public figures who were particularly annoying the U.S. authorities. The FBI stops at nothing to achieve its aims. It perpetrates criminal offences, maintains ties with the mafia, etc.

The construction of a special centre of the FBI which will contain the files on all "suspect" persons in the USA was started on President Reagan's order at Quantico, Virginia. The U.S. authorities class with "suspect" persons, participants in the anti-war movements, activists of the struggle for civil rights of blacks, Indians, progressive organisations. During Reagan's presidency the Supreme Court of the USA adopted a decree according to which the police and the FBI can install wherever they want and actually without sanctions of the official bodies electronic devices for the surveillance of citizens of the USA. Fundamental rights of the Americans to the immunity of the housing, private life and even the way of thinking are out of question in these conditions of total surveillance.

REPORTAGE ON RAJIV GANDHI'S VISIT TO USSR

Departs India

LD210435 Moscow TASS in English 0430 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] New Delhi May 21 TASS -- Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India left here for the Soviet Union by air today for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership. He is being accompanied by V.P. Singh, Indian minister of finance and commerce, Mr. Parthasarathi, chairman of the Policy Planning Committee of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. Bhandari, the ministry's secretary for external affairs, and by other officials. At Delhi's Palam International Airport Rajiv Gandhi and his party were seen off by P.V. Narasimha Rao, Indian minister of defence, S.B. Chavan, minister of home affairs, by other members of the Indian Government, by members of parliament, by prominent political and public figures of India and by numerous representatives of the public of the Indian capital. Among the send-off party was A.I. Fialkovskiy, charge d'affaires ad interim of the USSR to India.

Received by Gorbachev, Others

LD210902 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- The Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi arrived here today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

At the airport he was welcomed by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Culture of the USSR Petr Demichev, and other officials. From the airfield the motorcade escorted by motorcycle outriders headed for the Kremlin. In the Kremlin, in the square near the Grand Kremlin Palace, Rajiv Gandhi was welcomed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. N.A. Tikhonov, A.A. Gromyko, P.N. Demichev, S.L. Sokolov, I.V. Arkhipov, and other officials were present at the welcoming ceremony in the Kremlin. The state flags of India and the Soviet Union were hoisted. The streets and squares through which the motorcade rode were decked out with the state flags of India and the USSR and with streamers with the words of greetings. Along the way the prime minister of India was cheered by Muscovites.

TV Shows Arrival

OW211129 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian (Orbita-2) at 1030 GMT on 21 May begins its scheduled evening "Vremya" newscast with a 7-minute report over video on the arrival of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in the Soviet Union. The video shows Tikhonov, Gromyko, and Demichev in a group of officials including Indian Ambassador Hasan walking out towards an Air India aircraft at Sheremetyevo Airport. The video cuts to show Gandhi descending from the aircraft and shaking hands with Tikhonov and Gromyko.

Tikhonov and Gandhi are then shown standing on a red carpet with an aide holding an umbrella over them as the honor guard commander gives his report and the state anthems of India and the USSR are played. As Gandhi and Tikhonov review the honor guard and meet Soviet officials, the announcer reports that present are: "Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; ministers of the USSR; Comrade Rykov, USSR ambassador to India, and other officials."

Also named as being present is Indian Ambassador Hasan. Officials shaking hands with Gandhi are shown from behind and cannot be identified. However, shots of officials during the marchpast show Marshal of the Soviet Union Petrov, USSR first deputy minister of defense, and Marshal Aviation Yefimov, USSR deputy minister of defense, among officials behind Tikhonov and Gandhi.

On conclusion of the marchpast, the video shows a motorcade of vehicles driving through the rain from the airport to the Kremlin. The video cuts to show the courtyard "by the Great Kremlin Palace" as official cars pull up. Gorbachev and wife Raisa are shown waiting in the background with Sokolov and then shaking hands with Gandhi. As the video shows Tikhonov, Gromyko, Sokolov, and Demichev in the group behind Gorbachev, the announcer notes that they are present as well as "Arkhipov, and other officials."

USSR-India Talks Begin

LD211213 Moscow TASS in English 1203 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- Soviet-Indian talks began today in the Grand Kremlin Palace. They are being conducted by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India Rajiv Gandhi. Taking part in the talks from the Soviet side are member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Defence of the USSR Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Ivan Arkhipov.

PRAVDA Publishes Gandhi Profile

PM210923 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 85 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Welcome! On Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Arrival in the Soviet Union"]

[Excerpts] Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi arrives in the Soviet Union today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

R. Gandhi has confirmed the loyalty of his government to the course of J. Nehru and I. Gandhi, following which India has achieved impressive successes in the consolidation of political independence and economic autonomy and its international positions.

In the domestic policy field R. Gandhi's government attaches priority to the acceleration of economic and scientific-technical progress and the consolidation of India's unity and territorial integrity.

R. Gandhi's government pursues an active foreign policy based on the principles of nonalignment and peaceful coexistence. As chairman of the Nonaligned Movement India is making an important contribution to joint efforts to safeguard peace and the peoples' security. Rajiv Gandhi advocates the further development of friendly Soviet-Indian relations cemented by the treaty on peace, friendship, and cooperation between the USSR and India.

Soviet people cordially greet Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and express the certainty that his visit to our country will be a major contribution to the consolidation of the time-tested relations of close friendship and multifaceted cooperation between the USSR and India for the benefit of our two countries and in the interests of world peace and international security.

India's Policies Viewed

PM201701 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 85 First Edition p 4

[Special correspondent V. Shurygin report: "India: Perceptible Changes"]

[Excerpts] Delhi, Moscow -- One complex problem in India's current domestic political development is still the normalization of the situation in Punjab State. The government has expressed readiness to discuss any disputed issues with representatives of the state's political and religious circles, including the Akali Dal party, the most influential party among the Sikh community, on condition that it take place within the framework of the Constitution and does not damage the country's integrity. This has yet to meet with a positive response from the Akali Dal leaders. To all appearances, extremist, separatist elements, gambling on terrorist acts and subversion, have an increasing influence there. Their activity is whipped up by external forces in the United States and other Western countries and by various Sikh emigre organizations.

The Indian Government has recently been devoting much attention to foreign policy questions in connection with the exacerbation of the situation in the region. This applies first and foremost to relations with Pakistan, which the United States has turned into a bridgehead for the implementation of its own hegemonist policy in Asia. Nobody is likely to be convinced by Washington's assurances that the sophisticated types of armaments that it supplies to Islamabad, such as F-16 fighters and Harpoon sea-launched cruise missiles, are intended solely for use against Afghanistan. The U.S. arming of Pakistan has always met with negative reaction in India. People there believe that these weapons could ultimately be directed against India.

India is also worried about the Pentagon's continuing buildup of military might in the Indian Ocean. Its militarization creates a real threat to the security of India's sea borders and to the vitally important communications linking India to the outside world. Major Indian cities are located on the coast, while coastal waters are practically the only source of existence for many millions of Indians. That is why India consistently advocates the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

India has undergone severe trials this year. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi died at the hands of murderers.

India's enemies resorted to this villainous act in order to destabilize the country, create chaos, and, taking advantage of that, change its policy in a direction that suits them. However, they miscalculated. The new leadership, headed by Rajiv Gandhi, received mass support at the recent parliamentary elections. It has declared its adherence to the independent foreign and domestic policy elaborated by J. Nehru and developed by Indira Gandhi. This course is being actively put into practice.

YEFIMOV MEETS WITH INDIAN FORCES CHIEFS IN DELHI

PM171052 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 May 85 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Arrival in Delhi"]

[Text] Delhi, 16 May -- Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, has arrived here on an official visit at the invitation of Chief Marshal of Aviation L.M. Katre, Indian Air Force chief of staff.

Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov was greeted at Delhi airport by Chief Marshal of Aviation L.M. Katre, Marshal of Aviation (L. Lafonteyn). Air Force commander of the Western Command, and other officials. The welcoming party included A.I. Fialkovskiy, Soviet charge d'affaires in India. Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov called on Indian Defense Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. They had a conversation in a friendly atmosphere. Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov also met with General A.S. Vaidya, chairman of the Indian Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff and chief of staff of the Ground Forces, and with Chief Marshal of Aviation L.M. Katre, Indian Air Force chief of staff. The same day, the commander in chief of the USSR Air Force laid a wreath at the monument to the unknown soldier in the center of Delhi.

KARMAL GREETS GORBACHEV WHILE FLYING OVER USSR

PM201326 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "From Abroad the Aircraft"]

[Text] B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, has senta telegram to M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It states: "While overflying the territory of your beautiful country, allow me, on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and Government of the DRA, the people of Afghanistan, and on my own behalf, to convey most comradely and revolutionary greetings to the CPSU Central Committee, the Government of the Soviet Union, and the fraternal Soviet people. It may be said with full confidence that the relations of fraternal friendship and all-around cooperation between the DRA and the USSR will continue to strengthen and develop for the good of our two countries' peoples and in the name of strengthening peace and social progress.

"I take this opportunity to express my best comradely and fraternal wishes for good health, happiness, and further great successes to you and for prosperity to the great Soviet people under the CPSU"s leadership."

DEMICHEV MEETS WITH SED'S MITTAG, HERRMANN

PM210903 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "USSR Culture Days"]

[Text] Berlin -- The working people of the GDR are warmly welcoming the envoys of the multinational Soviet art who are participating in the USSR Culture Days taking place in Berlin. Among the guests is a Soviet delegation led by Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture. On 17 May, the head of the delegation had a talk with members of the Politburo and Secretaries of the SED Central Committee Mittag and Herrmann. Questions of the further development of cooperation between the two countries were discussed. A large place in the program of the festival, dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and the liberation of the German people, is occupied by a meeting between the participants in the Culture Days festivities and labor collectives and young people studying in the Republic.

ALIYEV RECEIVES GDR TRANSPORT MINISTER

PM201539 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] On 17 May, G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received O. Arndt, GDR minister of transport, who is in Moscow on a working visit. There was an exchange of opinions on questions of further developing cooperation in the sphere of transport and tourism. Participating in the talks, which were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, were N.S. Konarev, minister of railways; V.Ya. Pavlov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Tourism; and (Z. Kerner), GDR charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR.

ARKHIPOV, SFRY'S SREBRIC DISCUSS TRADE

LD210145 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1900 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today received Borisav Srebric, vice president of the Federal Executive Council of the SFRY, who is in Moscow for the opening of the Yugoslav industrial exhibition. They discussed questions of the further development of trade and economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. The following also took part in the conversation, which was held in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere: Zhuravlev, first deputy minister of foreign trade; Pitovranov, chairman of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry; as well as Bojanic, federal secretary for foreign trade; Filipovic, president of the Presidium of the Economic Chamber; and Milojko Drulovic, SFRY ambassador to the Soviet Union.

BCP DELEGATION VISITS 13-17 MAY, MEETS ZIMYANIN

PM210915 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Familiarization With Experience"]

[Text] In accordance with the CPSU-BCP plan for interparty ties, a delegation of BCP party workers headed by N. Stefanov, member of the BCP Central Committee and chief of the BCP Central Committee Cadre Policy Department, was in the Soviet Union 13-17 May.

The Bulgarian comrades familiarized themselves with the CPSU's experience in organizing education reform in the USSR and in the professional training of the young generation. They had meetings and talks at the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Department, Poltava Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom, the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences Presidium, the USSR Ministry of Education, the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, and a number of educational establishments.

The delegation was received by M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who had a warm, friendly talk with them.

POLISH NAVAL SQUADRON ARRIVES IN LENINGRAD

LD171214 Moscow TASS in English 1128 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Leningrad May 17 TASS -- The salvo of nations was fired today to welcome ships of the Polish Navy, which arrived in Leningrad on an official visit of friendship. The naval group is led by Admiral Ludwik Janczyszyn, commander-in-chief of the Polish Navy.

State flags of Poland and the Soviet Union were hoisted at the berth of the Neva Harbour, where the Warszawa destroyer and a beaching boat had cast anchor, and a naval guard of honour was lined up on the pier.

Admiral Ludwick Janczyszyn paid visits to Vladimir Khodyrev, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Leningrad City Soviet of People's Deputies, Colonel General Boris Snetkov, commander of the Leningrad Military District, and Admiral Vladimir Samoylov, commander of the Leningrad Naval Base. Return visits were paid aboard the destroyer.

The Polish visitors will for five days familiarise themselves with the organisation of studies and training at higher naval educational establishments and meet Soviet seamen and war veterans who had participated in the liberation of Poland from the Nazis.

Poland's general consul in Leningrad, Waclaw Jagelnicki, was among the welcoming party at the Neva Harbour.

HUNGARIAN DELEGATION VISITS BEARING PLANT

PM170905 Moscow TRUD in Russian 8 May 85 p 1

[TASS report: "Meeting Held"]

[Text] A Hungarian party and state delegation headed by S. Gaspar, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo, vice president of the Hungarian Presidential Council, and president of the Hungarian National Trade Union Council, which is in our country to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Soviet pepole's victory in the Great Patriotic War, has visited the First Moscow State Bearing Plant.

The visitors familiarized themselves with the enterprise's work and visited one of its shops. A friendly meeting between the delegation and the plant's party and economic aktiv was held. On behalf of the communists and all working people in Hungary, S. Gaspar cordially congratulated the plant collective and all Soviet people on the 40th anniversary of the great victory. He observed that there had been a widespread response in Hungary to the initiative of the plant and a number of other Soviet enterprises which had adopted and successfully met increased socialist pledges to mark the 13th MSZMP Congress and the anniversary of the country's liberation from fascism.

The delegation was accompanied by S.A. Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU, and L.N. Spiridonov, secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA ENDORSES WARSAW PACT EXTENSION

PM171359 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Guarantee of Peace"]

[Text] Prague, 16 May -- The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and the CSSR Government have approved the activity of the CSSR delegation to the meeting of top party and state figures from the Warsaw Pact countries.

An announcement published here stresses that under present-day conditions, when the reactionary circles of imperialism are continuing to step up the arms race and trying to achieve military superiority over the socialist countries and while the NATO military bloc exists, the extension of the term of the Warsaw Pact is of paramount significance.

The indissoluble alliance of socialist states serves as a guarantee of the strengthening of unity and cohesion, the deepening of all-around cooperation, and the consolidation of defense capability and of the peace necessary for socialist building. The Warsaw Pact watches over socialist gains and ensures the sovereign, peaceful development of the member-countries. It plays an important role in preserving and strengthening peace in Europe and throughout the world.

The CSSR, the announcement says, will continue to fulfill its commitments arising from the Warsaw Pact and make a weighty contribution to improving the organization's activity, further strengthening the coordination of the fraternal countries' foreign policy, and improving their defense capability.

MESSAGES EXCHANGED WITH AUSTRIA ON ANNIVERSARY

PM201344 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to R. Kirchschlaeger, federal president of the Republic of Austria, conveying cordial congratulations to the friendly Austrian people on the important occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the State Treaty on the restoration of an independent and democratic Austria.

The telegram expresses the conviction that the multifaceted, mutually advantageous Soviet-Austrian cooperation, whose reliable foundations are the State Treaty and the law on the permanent neutrality of the Republic of Austria, will continue to strengthen in the interests of the Soviet and Austrian peoples and promote the strengthening of peace and European security.

In a reply telegram, R. Kirchschlaeger expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and, for his part, expressed confidence that fruitful Austrian-Soviet cooperation, which is based on the State Treaty and Austria's status of permanent neutrality, will continue to promote the strengthening of peace and security in Europe in the interests of both countries' peoples.

FURTHER ON GROMYKO MEETING WITH AUSTRIAN CP HEAD

PM201310 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Comradely Talks"]

[Text] Vienna, 17 May -- A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, has met with F. Muhri, chairman of the Communist Party of Austria [KPOe]. Talks were held between A.A. Gromyko and F. Muhri in a cordial, comradely atmosphere.

M.T. Yefremov, USSR ambassador to Austria, and (I. Schtayner), member of the KPOe Central Committee and chief of the KPOe Central Committee International Section, participated in the meeting.

ITALIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS CONTINUE VISIT

Comparison of 16 May Talks

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 18 May carries in its Morning Edition on page 5 a TASS report on a 16 May meeting between an Italian parliamentary delegation and Supreme Soviet officials. The IZVESTIYA report, entitled "For Strengthening of Relations," has been compared with the TASS English report published in the 17 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages G 2 and G 3, revealing the following variations:

First paragraph, from line two reads in IZVESTIYA: ...USSR Parliamentary Group met 16 May with members of ...(substituting "16 May" for "today")

Same paragraph, from penultimate line reads in IZVESTIYA: ...USSR Supreme Soviet. Taking part in the meeting, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, were:

On the Soviet side -- V.V. Zagladin, secretary of the Soviet of the Union Foreign Affairs Commission, and G.A. Arbatov, T.N. Khrennikov, and S.V. Chervonenko, members of the Soviet of Nationalities Foreign Affairs Commission;

On the Italian side -- A. Ruffini, head of the group of parliamentarians and chairman of the lower house Defense Committee; Committee Secretary P. Zanini; committee members G. Alberini and P. Caccia; and also Italian Ambassador to the USSR G. Migliuolo.

From the Soviet...(rewording and supplying additional passage, picking up second paragraph)

Meet With Tolkunov

LD171001 Moscow TASS in English 0950 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS -- Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and leader of the USSR's Parliamentary Group, today received Italian parliamentarians who are staying in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet-Italian section of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR.

An exchange of opinions took place on the more important international problems of the times, including those of strengthening trust, securing a return to detente in Europe and limiting the arms race.

The conversation also covered issues of Soviet-Italian relations and of extending contacts between the parliamentarians of the two contries with the aim of improving mutual understanding between the people of the USSR and Italy and strengthening peace in the European Continent.

ITALIAN LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS REPORTED

PM171356 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by Gennadiy Zafesov under the "Commentator's Column" rubric: "Results of the Elections"]

[Text] Rome -- Local elections have been held in Italy for regional, provincial, and municipal organs.

Gaining 35 percent of the votes, the Christian Democratic Party [DC] came first. The Italian Communist Party [PCI] had the support of 30.2 percent of the electorate. The Italian Socialist Party [PSI] improved its position, collecting 13.3 percent of votes. Democratic circles call the increase in the number of votes cast for the extreme right-wing Italian Social Movement a perturbing feature.

The domestic political situation in the country during the election campaign and the elections themselves was unusually tense. The DC, the country's largest bourgeois party, after losing ground at the European Parliament elections in June last year, when the Italian Communist Party gained the largest number of votes, viewed the present elections as an opportunity to gain the revenge necessary to strengthen its prestige. Consequently, the Christian Democrats conducted their election campaign on an overtly anticommunist platform of unprecedented dimension.

The bourgeois mass media are seeking to present the election results as a "triumph" for the conservative forces and above all for the DC. Is that the case? No. Suffice it to say that the DC collected 1.8 percent fewer votes than at the 1980 local elections. The PCI's losses, on the other hand, were 1.3 percent. The obvious fact that the Communists outstripped the DC in the country's major industrial centers -- Milan and Turin -- is acknowledged only fleetingly or through clenched teeth. As a whole, the parties of the government coalition -- the DC, PSI, Social Democratic Party, Republican Party, and Liberal Party -- failed to expand the sphere of their influence. The idea of creating preconditions for replacing the left-wing councils (executive organs of power in which the Communists also take part) with a structure like a government cabinet has been fully implemented, as the above-mentioned parties had reckoned.

The results of the voting, the PCI Secretariat said, "provided new confirmation that the PCI has been and remains the country's major democratic and progressive force." At the same time, the Communists consider the results unsatisfactory and are preparing to analyze them.

Essentially, the disposition of forces in the Italian political arena has not undergone any fundamental changes, just as the burning problems whose solution the country continues to await have not disappeared.

PCI ANALYZES RETURNS

LD181533 Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Rome May 18 TASS -- A meeting of the leadership of the Italian Communist Party [PCI] was held here. It analyzed the returns of the general administrative elections held in Italy May 12-13. A document published by the party leadership today expresses gratitude to the Italian voters who expressed support for Communist Party candidates. "The voting has confirmed the great strength of the Italian Communist Party", the authors of the document state. 30.2 per cent of the electorate voted for the nominees of the Communist Party.

The document points to the need of an in-depth analysis and serious consideration of the results of the elections, the problems facing the country at present, party issues and the policy of the Italian Communist Party.

The leadership of the Italian Communist Party emphasises that the elections have not altered the correlation of forces inside the ruling five-party coalition and have not allayed contradictions existing between them since the moment it was founded. The authors of the document stress the need of setting up left-wing giuntas (local self-government bodies) and carrying out the policy of renovation of the country.

The leadership of the Italian Communist Party calls upon all Italian Communists to scale up their political activities, and efforts to promote democracy, uphold the rights and interests of the working people.

SECRET WITNESSES BEING PREPARED IN ANTONOV CASE

LD181915 Moscow TASS in English 0633 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Rome May 18 TASS -- The assassination of the pontiff should have marked, as certain quarters planned it, the start of a clamorous anti-communist "crusade" in the West.

This conclusion is drawn in a book by well-known progressive French lawyer and writer Christian Roulette, called "Jean Paul II-Antonov-Agca. La Filiere" (John Paul II-Antonov-Agca. The Links of a Chain). The Italian edition of his study, put out by Rome-based Napoleone Publishers, has been officially launched at the headquarters of the foreign press association in Rome.

"Regrettably, the state of my health prevents me from being personally present at the launching of a book which confirms my innocence once again" Bulgarian citizen Sergey Antonov said in a message to the book's author and its publisher, which was read out at a press conference, attended by Italian and foreign reporters, by Antonov's sister Tanya Georgiyeva.

Asked by an American correspondent about his motives for writing the book, Roulette said: "It has always been a matter of honor with lawyers to defend the truth. I try to do everything to support this great tradition."

He said that after studying the 1,240-page indictment drawn up by Italian investigator Ilario Martella the world's leading lawyers "arrive at the same conclusion as I have drawn when working on the book". Roulette said what is at issue is a secret plot to accuse Bulgarian citizens of involvement in the crime.

"After the huge heaps of lies piled up around Sergey Antonov's 'case', accompanied by a shrill uproar in the West, nothing is going to surprise me any more," B. Traikov, chief director of the Bulgarian news agency, told the press conference. According to foreign press reports, he said, unidentified additional witnesses are now being "prepared" in secret, who are to testify at a trial in Rome against Antonov. But no matter how many such "witnesses" are, justice will triumph: Sergey Antonov is innocent and must be released.

TASS REPORTS WEU ASSEMBLY SESSION OPENS 20 MAY

LD201319 Moscow TASS in English 1238 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Paris May 20 TASS -- The 31st session of the Assembly of the Western European Union [WEU], a military-political grouping of a number of West European countries that is closely connected with the United States and NATO opened here today. On the agenda of the session are such items as cooperation with NATO, prospects of joint arms manufacture within the framework of the union and organisational questions. The American "Strategic Defence Initiative" will be a key item of discussion.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S STAND ON SDI QUESTIONED

LD182312 Moscow in French to France and Belgium 1930 GMT 18 May 85

[Boris Tumanov commentary]

[Excerpts] Good evening dear listeners. France's official refusal to participate in the project of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative [SDI] extolled by the U.S. Administration, has not put an end to the speculation about the extent and nature of French opposition to the "star wars" plans. Certainly, Paris has already officially expressed its principled position on the militarization of space and the extension of the arms race to space, but that does not prevent French officials from recognizing at the same time that the problem of defense will, sooner or later, inevitably be linked with space.

Roland Dumas stated at Limoges that in the economic field Europe will not be a subcontractor to the United States, as wished by President Reagan in Bonn, within the framework of his campaign for the participation of the West European countries in the SDI. But even if Paris officially refuses this role, certain big private French companies, such as Thomson, have already signed a contract for cooperation with the U.S. companies taking part in the "star wars" program. In any case, a U.S. ambassador in France, Evan Galbraith, who will certainly never be capable of conforming to the requirements of the job, has once again ventured to interpret French policy by asserting that the statement by French officials on the refusal to join the Strategic Defense Initiative in fact only referred to the official participation of the French Government in this program. Galbraith also expressed his certainty that France would continue to participate in the "star wars" plan through its companies. Is there a better way of finding out the intentions of the French Government than through the prime minister's office?

In the meantime, France proposes the peaceful space technology research program "Eureka" to its West European partners. According to official Paris, this program, if it is accepted by the others, is designed to permit Western Europe to respond in a worthy fashon to the U.S. and Japanese technical challenge.

One has the right to wonder what France will do if it does not manage to interest its West European partners in this project? This question is all the more imperative when one knows that France signed the statement in Bonn approving the U.S. attitude at the Geneva talks, at which the U.S. representatives obstruct any attempt at constructive discussions on space weapons. It seems that in this specific case, the considerations of Atlantic solidarity take precedence over the increasing concern of the European partners of the United States which are faced with the political and military danger they see in the Strategic Defense Initiative of President Reagan.

FRG ARMY SAID TRYING TO REVIVE REVANCHISM

PM201336 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 17 May carries in its Second Edition on page 3 a 1,200-word article entitled "In the Spirit of Revanchism" by Lieutenant Colonel N. Mishin. The article criticizes the FRG Government's decision to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Bundeswehr's formation in November 1985 and to revive the traditions of the Wehrmacht, seeing this as evidence of a resurgence of revenchism among FRG official circles. Mishin is particularly critical of FRG Defense Minister Woerner's role in promoting military links with the "fascist Wehrmacht." Mishin also criticizes the Freiburg military history research directorate, whose work is aimed at "whitewashing fascism's crimes and creating, primarily among young readers, a distorted image of the culprits and of the reasons for and course and lessons of the last war." Mishin concludes by warning all those who "want to rewrite history" that they should "once more ponder the grim and just lessons of World War II."

SUBMARINE 'MYTH' FUELS HOSTILITY TO USSR IN SWEDEN

PM171334 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 May 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Ye. Potapov "Rejoinder": "Once Again a Hackneyed Myth"]

[Text] Political life in Sweden does not stand still. A routine session of parliament is drawing to an end, and the pace of the election struggle is increasing.

However, the stubborn desire of Swedish military and right-wing circles to fan an atmosphere hostile to the USSR, in particular by spreading the myth of violations of the borders of Swedish territorial waters by Soviet submarines, remains unchanged. It was recently learned from Stockholm newspaper reports that the Swedish Defense Policy Committee has begun preparing another report on submarine activity in the Baltic. The committee intends to base this report on a parliamentary commission document published back in April 1983, which alleged that Soviet submarines had penetrated Swedish waters, leaving some mysterious caterpillar tracks on the seabed.

To judge from admissions in the Stockholm press, many Swedes have long since grown tired of the "submarine" ballyhoo and treat with great irony the attempts of the local military to catch Soviet submarines among the skerries or to detain the mysterious divers who allegedly appear suddenly on offshore Swedish islands and then disappear equally suddenly. All this has already ended repeatedly in...the catching of rusty old refrigerators, water pipes, and other junk. Stunned fish were all that rose to the water's surface after combat depth charges were dropped.

It is noteworthy that this time it has been decided to revive the submarine affair on a broader base, so to speak. According to a press report, some people now intend to generalize "data" on submarine violations of the territorial waters of Denmark, Norway, and Finland. Here the fact that it is a question of Soviet submarines is not concealed. Swedish anti-Soviets evidently feel cramped at home and now want to act more widely -- on the scale of the entire north European region.

What has brought about this new "anti-submarine flareup"?

The answer is far from simple. It is clear that, on the one hand, Swedish reactionary circles are seeking to prove to taxpayers the validity of a new increase in military spending. As early as the beginning of May the newspaper DAGENS NYHETER reported that 1.5 billion Swedish kronor are being allocated to strengthen the country's antisubmarine defenses over the next few years. On the other hand, certain Stockholm circles are continuing to attentively heed voices from across the ocean, where people have not been stinting in all kinds of inflammatory statements recently. Thus, according to the newspaper SVENSKA DAGBLADET, U.S. Navy Secretary J. Lehman declared at a closed seminar at Harvard University at the end of April that the Soviet Union is studying Swedish waters in the Baltic. Finally, it is evidently to the advantage of some people in Sweden to drag out the dying "submarine issue" until the parliamentary election due in September: They reckon on it giving them votes from men in the street and from those who support the right-wing forces.

As for the USSR, it has repeatedly declared officially that Soviet ships have never deliberately violated Swedish territorial integrity. The Soviet Union pursues no ends that could harm Swedish political or defense interests. What is more, the USSR seeks to develop good relations with its neighbor Sweden in the spirit of mutual respect and understanding. The maintenance of such relations seems to be in the interests of Sweden too.

MARCHUK ATTENDS NORWEGIAN EMBASSY RECEPTION

PM200920 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Announcements"]

[Text] Norwegian Ambassador to the USSR D. Stenseth gave a reception 17 May on the occasion of Norway's national day, Constitution Day. The reception was attended by G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.F. Stukalin, USSR deputy foreign minister; and other officials. A delegation from the "Norway-Soviet Union" society was also present.

ARAB PEACEKEEPING FORCES' RETURN TO LEBANON URGED

PM201848 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 May 85 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent Ye. Korshunov dispatch: "Lebanon: Seeking a Solution to the Problem"]

[Text] Beirut -- Increasingly persistent calls have recently been heard in Lebanon for the pan-Arab peacekeeping forces to be reintroduced into Lebanon to put an end to the continuing bloody clashes between the warring sides here.

Former President S. Franjiyah, under whom these forces were introduced into Lebanon in 1976, has called upon Syria to send its troops into Beirut, into regions where tragic events are taking place, to restore calm and order. M. Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Lebanese parliament, stated that he and Deputy Nazim al-Qadiri are preparing a relevant draft resolution that it is intended to put to the vote in parliament. Many other eminent Lebanese politicians and statesmen are coming out in a similar vein. Their statements are receiving the most extensive coverage in the Lebanese media. There are also reports on the visits to Damascus by representatives of the sides participating in the conflict and the active consultations being held between them and ranking Syrian leaders.

As is well known, Syrian subunits formed the bulk of the pan-Arab peace-keeping forces in Lebanon which were in Beirut until August 1982, when they were withdrawn as a result of the Israeli invasion. Syrian subunits of these forces, however, continue to remain in north Lebanon, in certain of its central regions, and in the Al-Biqa' valley, where they stopped the progress of the Israeli aggressors in summer 1982.

SYRIAN-LIBYAN NEGOTIATIONS HELD IN DAMASCUS

LD201438 Moscow TASS in English 1348 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Damascus May 20 TASS -- It is only through joint efforts that Arab countries can give a rebuff to imperialist and Zionist forces, frustrate their designs of establishing domination in the Middle East, said Prime Minister of Syria 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, in the course of negotiations with Secretary General of the General People's Committee of the Libyan Jamahiriyah Muhamamd al-Zaruq Rajab. The Zionist leadership could not conduct its aggressive policy without all-round assistance that Israel receives from the United States, its strategic ally, stressed 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm.

The Libyan people sides with Syria fighting against the Israeli aggression, for liberation for all lands occupied by Zionists, said the head of Libyan Government in the course of the negotiations. Unity of action of all Arab countries can be an efficient means for attaining victory over enemies of peoples of the region.

In the course of Syrian-Libyan negotiations, the SANA news agency reports, the sides are discussing questions of developing cooperation in different spheres, above all economic. Much attention in the negotiations is paid to questions of broadening scientific-technical and cultural cooperation and also cooperation in the sphere of information and tourism.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS

PM171327 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Peresada report: "Talks in Cairo"]

[Text] Cairo, 16 May -- Egyptian-Israeli talks "on the whole range of relations between the two countries" are in progress here. As the Egyptian news agency MENA reported, U.S. representatives are also taking part in the talks. The main theme of the meeting is to discuss the question of the disputed Tabah region, which is in the Sinai Peninsula. As is well known, when it evacuated its troops from Sinai in April 1982, Israel refused to return this sector of territory to Egypt, and since then has been trying to use it as a lever for exerting pressure on Cairo with a view to securing political concessions. According to A. Tamir, director of the Israeli prime minister's office, who is the head of the Israeli delegation to the talks, Tel Aviv intends once again to link any progress in the "Sinai dispute" to the stepping up of moves toward Egyptian-Israeli rapproachement.

These are Israel's demands: the organization of a meeting between the Israeli prime minister and the Eygptian president, the return to Tel Aviv of the Egyptian ambassador, who was recalled nearly 3 years ago to protest the Israeli aggression in Lebanon, and the "unfreezing" of trade, economic, and other ties between the two countries. For its part, Cairo demands in return the return of Tabah and insists on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and the settlement of the Palestinian problem. Until recently, Tel Aviv had not accepted the greater part of these demands. For instance, Israeli leaders have invariably rejected the latter demand. However, observers note, Israel now has "more freedom of action than before." It has this opportunity because of the proposal recently put forward by Cairo for direct (that is, separate) talks between Israel and a "joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation," making use of the Amman agreement between King Husayn of Jordan and Y. 'Arafat. Certain points of contact could undoubtedly be found, the Israeli newspaper MA'ARIV writes, noting that this presupposes "flexibility on both sides." In other words, Tel Aviv is counting on Egypt's being able to make certain concessions in its favor.

Talks Conclude

PM201027 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by own correspondent V. Peresada: "On Former Positions"]

[Text] Cairo, 19 May -- The Egyptian-Israeli talks, during which there was a discussion of "the entire complex of relations between the two countries," have ended here. A U.S. representative also took part in the talks. To judge from press reports, the sides maintained their former positions on the main issue of the talks, the disputed Tabah region on the Sinai Peninsula. The Tel Aviv delegation again alleged that this region, which was not handed over to Egypt after the evacuation of Israeli troops from Sinai in 1982, is "part of Israel's territory." The Egyptians, on the other hand, insisted on the return of this section of the peninsula, demanding that the conflict situation be resolved through international arbitration.

However, D. Kimche, general director of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, has said that this does not suit Tel Aviv. International arbitration would make it difficult for Israel not only to continue its occupation of Tabah but also to haggle over it, whereas bilateral talks with U.S. participation enable Tel Aviv to bring pressure to bear on Egypt with a view to achieving political concessions. The present meeting in Cairo has convincingly confirmed this. In exchange for agreeing to "talk about Tabah," Tel Aviv has sought to activate steps toward Egyptian-Israeli rapprochement.

CUBA TERMS RADIO MARTI 'UNSAVORY PROVOCATION'

LD201511 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Havana May 20 TASS -- In its statement the Cuban Government assesses as cynical and provocative the decision of the United States Government to start as of today subversive broadcasts beamed on Cuba. The Cuban people regard as a gross insult the fact that the new U.S. radio station uses the glorious name of fighter for Cuba's freedom and independence Jose Marti.

The statement of the Cuban Government was handed over today to acting head of the department representing U.S. interests in Havana. It is stressed in the statement that an unsavory provocation of the United States was staged at a time when Cuba was taking constructive steps in various spheres to ease tension between the two countries.

The broadcasts of programmes of the anti-Cuban radio station, the statement says, show the obvious intention of the USA to answer rudely the justifiable statements of the Cuban Government about a critical economic position of countries of Latin America and the Third World, about a huge foreign debt which cannot be repaid and about the plundering of the economy of those countries which is made possible by the inequitable system of international relations. There is no doubt that by that step the U.S. Government is striving to create around Cuba an atmosphere of tension and conflicts which would distract the attention of the world public from this serious problem.

Assessing the action of the U.S. Government as perfidy, the Cuban Government announced countermeasures envisaging the revision of the existing agreements between the two countries on a number of questions.

The Cuban Government declares that Cuba will continue developing relations with countries of Latin America and the Third World, will continue the struggle to ensure that the practice of protectionism, destructive dumping against many of their most important export articles be abandoned, the struggle against high bank rates, against arbitrary appreciation of the dollar rate, against other methods of merciless exploitation and plundering of those countries, for the establishment of a new international economic order.

For 25 years the Cuban people have been opposing the great power policy of the United States, its economic blockade and all forms of aggressive actions. The present U.S. Administration should not have the slightest doubt that the Cuban people will continue opposing them as long as necessary, the statement of the Cuban Government stresses.

Protests to UN

LD201858 Moscow TASS in English 1947 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] New York May 20 TASS -- Cuba's permanent mission to the United Nations has declared a strong protest over the U.S. continuing psychological warfare against that country. In a letter to the UN secretary-general in connection with the started broadcasting of a subversive radio service, which will beam programs to Cuba for 14 hours a day, it said that the move aimed to cultivate an atmosphere of tension and conflict around Cuba.

The letter, which was circulated as an official document of the U.N. General Assembly, flatly rejected U.S. claims that the service, called Radio Marti, would be a source of precise and objective information.

SOLOMENTSEV CONTINUES ACTIVITIES ON CUBAN VISIT

Addresses Havana Meeting

LD151614 Moscow TASS in English 1556 GMT 15 May 85

[Text] Havana May 15 TASS -- Fraternal solidarity of Soviet people with the Cuban people has been expressed by Mikhail Solomentsev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee. He delivered a speech at a mass meeting of the Cuban-Soviet Friendship Society here. The Soviet-Cuban cooperation has been developing successfully for over a quarter of a century, he said. The Soviet Union, Cuba, other fraternal countries are implementing all-round programme of the economic integration in most diverse branches of the industry, agriculture, science and technology.

Pointing out that entire progressive humanity is celebrating these days the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler fascism, the speaker stressed that humanity should learn lessons from the grim experience of the past war. The main of these lessons is that it is necessary to wage the struggle against war before it started. The lessons of the Second World War are a grim warning to those who are imposing the arms race, who push the world to war catastrophe, harbour the plans of establishing world hegemony, Mikhail Solomentsev said. The attempts of the class enemy to ascribe to socialism so-called "export of revolution" are absolutely untenable. At the same time, the socialist countries are determined to prevent the export of counter-revolution.

The situation in Central America where the United States is grossly interfering in internal affairs of peoples is becoming ever more precarious, the speaker stressed. The decision of the Reagan administration on the economic blockade of Nicaragua has become another step along this dangerous road. The Soviet people condemn the policy of aggression, interference in Nicaragua's internal affairs, the policy of state terrorism conducted against that country, Mikhail Solomentsev said. "I wish to declare from this rostrum with all responsibility: The Soviet Union wholly supports the just cause of Nicaragua, declares resolutely against imperialist diktat and crude pressure," Mikhail Solomentsev said.

The only possible road of solving problems existing in Central America is the road of talks between appropriate states. This is precisely what Nicaragua suggests. This is precisely what Cuba and other Latin American countries support.

Jorge Risquet, member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, also spoke at the meeting. "Official recognition of the revolutionary Government of Cuba by the Soviet Union soon after the victory of our revolution, on January 10, 1959, two days after Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro arrived in Havana at the head of the victorious insurgent army, has become an unforgettable gesture of solidarity", the speaker said. Diplomatic relations which had earlier been broken off as a result of pro-imperialist actions of the Batista dictatorship were restored a year since, on May 8. The development of qualitatively new relations between the USSR and Cuba was started with the victory of the Cuban Revolution.

"When the United States came at Cuba with all its might the Cuban people opposed every aggressive economic, political or military step of the USA with the invincible readiness for the struggle, and the Cuban people was given a timely and firm support by the Soviet Union in this," the speaker said. "Over these two and a half decades our peoples have been forging ahead together, united by the goals and tasks of socialist construction. They developed a new, previously non-existent type of relations between a great power and a small country.

"Our strong ties with the people, party, government and Armed Forces of the Soviet Union, the ties that have strengthened over a quarter of a century have become unbreakable and now represent one of the main foundations of our revolution and successes of socialist construction in our country," Jorge Risquet said. In a political aspect there exists between the CPSU and the Communist Party of Cuba complete coincidence of views on the main questions of socialist construction and the international situation, the speaker said.

Visits Isle of Youth

LD161214 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS Report: "On a Friendly Visit"]

[Text] Comrade Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, who is in Havana on an official visit to take part in the festivities honoring the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism and the 25th anniversary of the restoration of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Cuba, together with the delegation led by him, has made a trip around the Isle of Youth. They visited the museum created in the former prison in which Fidel Castro, Raul Castro and other Cuban patriots who took part in the heroic storming of the Moncada Barracks were imprisoned. Comrade Solomentsev and members of the delegation took part in the opening of a new printing combine built with technical assistance from the Soviet Union. They visited the boarding school in which children from Namibia, illegally occupied by the racist regime of South Africa, study. The delegation was accompanied by Jesus Montane, candidate member of the Politburo and member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee.

Received by Fidel Castro

PM201126 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Unity of Views"]

[Text] Havana, 17 May -- M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and head of the Soviet delegation, who is here on a friendly visit at the invitation of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee and the Republic's Council of State to participate in festivities devoted to the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism and the 25th anniversary of the resumption of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Cuba, was received by Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Republic's Councils of State and Ministers.

An exchange of opinions on a broad range of questions of CPSU and PCC domestic and foreign policy and on topical international problems took place during the extensive conversation, which was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere and with total mutual understanding and unity of views.

The same day F. Castro organized a reception in honor of the Soviet delegation. On the Cuban side it was attended by party and state leaders of the Republic.

The Soviet delegation, accompanied by F. Castro, saw for itself new forms of medical services for the population in one of the Cuban capital's districts.

M.S. Solomentsev and the members of the delegation met with representatives of Soviet specialists working in Cuba.

M.S. Solomentsev and the members of the Soviet delegation he heads, consisting of I.P. Kalin, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; and P.A. Zagrebelnyy, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, left for home 17 May. M.S. Solomentsev and the Soviet delegation were seen off at Jose Marti International Airport by Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat; Jesus Montane Oropesa, candidate member of the Politburo and member of the Secretariat of the PCC Central Committee; and Severo Aguirre del Cristo, vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government. USSR Ambassador to Cuba K.F. Katushev was among the send-off party.

Returns From Havana

PM210901 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Return of Delegation"]

[Text] Moscow May 18 TASS -- The delegation led by Mikhail Solomentsev, a member of the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, which was in Cuba on a friendly visit during the festivities marking the 40th anniversary of the victory over nazism and the anniversary of the restoration of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba, returned to Moscow 18 May.

The delegation was met at Moscow airport by V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; CPSU Central Committee members B.P. Bugayev, A.E. Voss, I. S. Gustov, and O.B. Rakhmanin; V.G. Kompelktov, USSR deputy foreign minister; and other officials. L. Soto, Cuban ambassador to the USSR, was among the welcoming party.

ORTEGA RETURNS HOME, STRESSES WORLD SUPPORT

LD210613 Moscow TASS in English 0600 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] Managua May 21 TASS -- The Reagan Administration will fail in its attempt to stifle Nicaragua by economic blockade, since Nicaragua enjoys broad international support. This was stated by President of the Republic Daniel Ortega who returned from his trip to countries of the socialist community and a number of West European states.

Agreements on deliveries to Nicaragua of oil and other raw materials, machinery and equipment were concluded during the visit to the USSR, the president stressed. Concrete aid in food and other commodities has been rendered to the Sandinist revolution by the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and other countries. Leaders of France, Spain, Italy, Finland, and Sweden cdeclared their readiness to continue trade and economic cooperation with Nicaragua.

Irrespective of ideological positions of European states, all of them turned down U.S. repressive economic and trade measures against Nicaragua and displayed unity in supporting the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, stressed Daniel Ortega.

PRAVDA ON GORBACHEV AT LENINGRAD 'SVETLANA' PLANT

PM201039 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 85 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "The Unity of Science and Production Is a Command of the Times: M.S. Gorbachev's Stay in Leningrad"]

[Text] Leningrad 17 May -- Yesterday M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, continued familiarizing himself with the work of enterprises and organizations and with life in the city of Neva. In the morning he visited the "Svetlana" electronic instrument-making enterprise whose collective was one of the first in the country to start operating as a production amalgamation.

At the meetings there Leningraders stated their striving and readiness to increase their contribution to accelerating the country's economic and social development, reorganising management and planning, enhancing organisation and strengthening discipline, and radically improving work style. An optimal form of combining science and industrial practice was found at "Svetlana". Owing to this output increased 16 times during the past 20 years, labor productivity was increased more than 11-fold while the number of personnel went up by only 38 percent.

Citing concrete examples the director general of the amalgamation, Hero of Socialist Labor O.V. Filatov, the secretary of the party committee, I.I. Simakov, specialists and workers said that the work collective achieved the high results by fulfilling plans of comprehensive economic and social development. Strategic measures of specializing production, perfecting its structure and management, creating optimal conditions of the work, daily life, rest and recreation of personnel were incorporated in these plans.

Mikhail Sergeyevich familiarized himself with the activity of the scientific-production complexes formed at the amalgamation, that design and put out microprocessor equipment. He talked to workers, engineers and technicians, showed interest in conditions created at the enterprise for furthering their general educational knowledge, raising their qualification, strengthening their health and good rest.

It was stressed during the conversations that scientific and technological progress requires a further perfection of our economic mechanism and the entire management system.

There were lively and detailed conversations in the lecture-rooms, laboratories and conference hall of the M.I. Kalinin Polytechnical Institute, one of the biggest establishments of higher education in the country.

Mikhail Gorbachev told the students and faculty members about the main directions of the party's economic and social policy, about the decisions adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and the Council of Ministers of the USSR in furtherance of the guidelines set by the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. When talking with future specialists -- senior year students of the Department of Mechanics and Machine Building -- he asked them in detail about the organization of the study process, their political training, the conditions for physical training and activities, about student life in general.

The collective of the institute is persistently reorganizing the study process in accordance with the demands of scientific and technological progress and the need to accelerate our advance. The rector of the institute, Yu.S. Vasilyev, reported that in the years of the 11th 5-Year Plan the institute started training engineers in 17 new specialities and specializations, including such as automated designing systems, robotics, technology of automated production and others.

In the course of the conversations and in their speeches the students ardently approved the recent measures taken by the CPSU Central Committee to raise the role and prestige of the work of engineers.

The students voiced full support for the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state and assured that as future specialists they are prepared to fulfill any tasks set to the country by the Communist Party. They spoke of various aspects of the work of Komsomol groups and about the scientific research being done on the orders of enterprises.

Summing up the conversations at the institute on the present and future of the country's system of higher education the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee told the students that the growing generation will soon have to take upon itself the cause of developing science and technology and assume responsibility for the socialist motherland's further advance.

In the afternoon the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee visited the "Bolshevichka" garments amalgamation. The director of the enterprise, N.V. Tsarkova, the secretary of the party committee, A.N. Kuchumova, workers of the enterprise told him about the work they had done to supply consumers with more goods that are in increased demand. The collective annually changes the assortment of women's and children's clothes produced by it by up to 80 percent and as compared to 1980 has almost doubled output of products with the index "n" (novelty). Labor expenditure at this enterprise is 40 percent less than the average figure for the garments industry.

The managers of the amalgamation said it was necessary to change the system of planning for light industry enterprises by basing the plan on contracts concluded at wholesale fairs between enterprises and trade organizations, to take into account in plans the raw materials that are being supplied and the available labor resources. It was stressed during the conversations that to lessen labor turnover the Ministry of the Light Industry of the Russian Federation should devote attention to retooling, providing the enterprise with more productive equipment, and improving working and living conditions.

Mikhail Sergeyevich wished the collective big successes in the socialist emulation campaign to meet the 27th CPSU Congress worthily.

Mikhail Gorbachev visited the exhibition "Intensification-90" featuring all the sections and directions of the territorial-branch program of intensifying Leningrad's economy in the period to the year 1990 that has been drawn up and is being successfully carried out. The full implementation of the measures envisaged by it will ensure an accelerated and large-scale introduction of the latest technological processes, means of automation and mechanization, flexible automated systems and progressive types of equipment with the extensive use of computers. This will serve as a basis for ensuring stable economic growth rates, a drastic reduction of the level of manual labor, including the municipal economy and the services industry, lower production costs and the saving of large quantities of all types of resources.

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee supported the large-scale work of Leningrad's party organization and working people in accelerating scientific and technological progress.

At the enterprises and organizations M.S. Gorbachev was accompanied by the first secretary of the Leningrad Regional CPSU Committee, L.N. Zaikov, and other officials of the city and Leningrad region.

At Piskarevoskoye Memorial Cemetery M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, honored the memory of the Leningraders and servicemen who fell while defending the city of Lenin during the Great Patriotic War years. A wreath was laid at the foot of the monument to the motherland.

Flowers were laid at the obelisk to the hero-city of Leningrad in Vostaniyed Square.

CAPITALIST, SOCIALIST HUMAN RIGHTS CONTRASTED

PM171500 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 85 First Edition pp 3, 4

[Academician V. Kudryavtsev article: "Human Rights and Ideological Struggle"]

[Text] The problems of human rights, freedom, and democracy and the problems of the interrelationship of citizen and society are the subject of an acute ideological struggle raging in today's world. Increasingly broad strata of working people from different countries and continents are joining in the struggle for their political, social, and national interests; the level of their social and class awareness is rising, and they are displaying growing readiness to fight for and uphold their rights. At the same time, imperialist reaction is striving to preserve and consolidate the principles of bourgeois individualism and social and economic inequality, presenting these principles as "eternal norms" of human relations. The exposure of anticommunist fabrications on this subject is of important ideological, scientific, and practical significance.

The legislative enactment and safeguarding of the individual's rights and freedoms is an inalienable element of socialist democracy. "Everything for the sake of man, everything for the benefit of man -- this program stipulation must be filled with increasingly profound and specific content," as the materials of the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum noted. The socialist concept of human rights, based on the Marxist-Leninist teaching, gives scope for the comprehensive development of the individual, for the fuller satisfaction of his material and spiritual interests and needs, and for the working people's increasingly broad involvement in the management of society and the state. This concept is consistently materialized in the daily practice of improving the society of developed socialism.

The fundamentally opposite nature of the socialist and the bourgeois concepts of human rights stems primarily from the differing views on their nature and historical roots. Rejecting the social nature of these rights, bourgeois ideologists try to present them as some kind of immutable substance independent of the specific social system and the state and to present obligations as something alien to the individual and imposed on him by society. Furthermore, they include primarily private ownership and the system of exploitation based on it among the fundamental human rights, suitable for all times and for all peoples.

In actual fact, human rights are a social and class concept. There is no such thing as human rights in general, outside society and independent of it. The social and class nature of the social formation determines the nature of man's relationship with society and the correlation between his rights and obligations. No legislator is capable of "inventing" rights and freedoms that do not stem organically from the nature of existing social relations.

The nature and extent of human rights and freedoms are also affected by the political system, the level of democracy, traditions, the spiritual atmosphere, and the condition of culture. Particular significance attaches to the scale of the struggle by oppressed classes and all progressive forces in society advocating an expansion of working people's rights and freedoms. Only comprehensive analysis of these factors makes it possible to explain why different rights and freedoms of the individual are enacted in different states, even under the same socioeconomic formation.

True equality of individuals is achieved for the first time in a society freed of exploitation of man by man, a society unacquainted with discrimination and oppression.

One of the characteristic tendencies in the society of developed socialism is not only the further expansion of citizens' rights but also the imparting of new and real meaning to these rights and their improvement in the direction of the fuller satisfaction of economic, social, and spiritual needs and interests.

As a rule, bourgeois constitutions fail to even mention the individual's socioeconomic rights. This is understandable: Capitalism is incapable of ensuring employment for the entire population and is not even interested in doing so. The bourgeois state does not burden itself with concern for the economic, political, and spiritual interests of the working classes. The developed capitalist countries today have about 35 million unemployed, one-fourth of whom are in the United States. M. Cranston, theoretician of British conservatism, admits that "the wonderful idea of social rights may materialize at some time, but this is something completely unattainable under the conditions of modern society."

That is correct, but correct only as it applies to capitalism. In socialist society, human rights and freedoms are an inalienable element of the way of life. The USSR Constitution has legislatively enshrined the citizens' rights to labor and relaxation, health care and social security, housing and education. The principle of socialism -- from each according to his ability, to each according to his labor -- is designed to ensure the true social equality of working people and provide broad scope for perfecting the individual.

The implementation of this principle makes it possible to constantly raise the level of social production and enhance the population's prosperity. Real per capita incomes in our country increased 51 percent in 1970-82 alone. There has been considerable development of the system of health services and social security, and the network of cultural institutions and educational establishments -- to put it briefly, the material base of the individual's social and cultural rights -- has expanded.

The USSR Constitution has enshrined a broad range of citizens' political rights and freedoms. The elections to organs of soviet power are a tangible expression of the Soviet people's full rights and of their social activeness. The results of these elections invariably become convincing evidence of working people's support for CPSU policy and of the unbreakable unity of the party and people.

The equality of economic, social, political, and national rights enshrined in the USSR Constitution serves as one of the fundamental principles of the political system of developed socialism.

Even socialism, as V.I. Lenin noted, cannot ensure the actual total equality of all citizens. This becomes possible only under communism. At the same time, the Soviet state, basing its social policy on strict observance of the principle "from each according to his ability, to each according to his labor," is doing a very great deal to narrow the gap among the living standards of different social groups and strata of the population. This is the aim pursued by the benefits to women with children, war and labor veterans, and workers in isolated localities and in physically demanding vocations. A contribution to this will also be made by the forthcoming increase in the minimum pension for a whole range of categories of citizens. Great significance attaches to payments and benefits from social consumption funds, which more than tripled between 1965 and 1982 and reached R134.5 billion in 1983. Socialist justice provides for strict monitoring of the utilization of these funds, which finance free education and further training, medical assistance, student grants, paid leave, free and subsidized travel to sanatoriums and rest homes, maintenance of children in preschool institutions, and so on. Nothing similar exists in the capitalist world.

The socialist state does restrict itself to juridically enshrining the individual's legal status. One of its functions is to secure and safeguard the citizen's rights and freedoms.

Historical credit is due to socialism for the fact that it not only proclaimed a broad range of democratic rights and freedoms but also secured their implementation. For example, the right to work in our country has been secured by the total liquidation of unemployment. The trade unions, state organs, and people's control strictly monitor the observance of legislation which guarantees citizens' rights in the sphere of labor and relaxation, social security, and medical services. The union republics' housing laws set the procedure for the creation and utilization of the constantly growing housing fund. Some 25.5 million new apartments were built in 1971-82 alone, while housing conditions have improved for 127 million citizens (and they represent almost half of the country's population). About 80 percent of the urban population now lives in individual apartments. The current 5-year plan will see the commissioning of 554 million square meters of housing, which will be 24 million more than planned. Furthermore, apartment rents in the USSR have remained unchanged since 1928 and account on the average for 3 percent of a working family's income, while the housing rent paid by the average American family is in excess of 40 percent of its income.

The guarantees enshrined in the USSR Constitution which are being consistently implemented stem from the very nature of the socialist system.

The society of developed socialism is interested in ensuring that citizens make fuller and more effective use of their rights and freedoms, which helps enhance working people's social activeness and expand their participation in the management of the state's affairs.

The unity of the individual's rights and obligations is an inalienable element of socialist democracy, expressing the harmonious combination of the interests of society and the individual. Rights cannot exist without obligations, nor obligations without rights, in a society of social justice. This unity contributes to the development of fair social relations which preclude privileges either for individuals or for social groups and strata. Just as they preclude any discriminatory restrictions.

The strengthening of socialist democracy presupposes not only the expansion of rights and freedoms but also the extension of obligations. Life demands the consolidation of organization and order and strict observance of state and labor discipline, which is linked with the growing complexity of economic and social development tasks and the progress of the scientific and technical revolution. The Soviet state, while showing concern for raising the people's prosperity and for preserving and securing the citizen's rights and freedoms, is fully justified in demanding strict observance of the laws and performance of obligations by each citizen.

The serious measures taken to strengthen law and order and step up the struggle against embezzlers of socialist property, bribetakers, speculators, and other criminals, enjoy the population's support. Soviet people also unanimously condemn those few mavericks who slander our reality and have become accomplices in imperialism's ideological subversions.

The U.S. ruling circles use the false thesis of "human rights violations" in socialist countries as one of the main methods of "psychological warfare." For example, the U.S. State Department's recent report on the situation in the human rights sphere contains an entire collection of anti-Soviet fabrications on that subject.

Usurping the role of "defender" of human rights and freedoms, the Washington administration distributes "assessments" of the situation on this issue in almost all countries in the world, without hesitating to distort facts or use slander.

One of anticommunist propaganda's lines involves attempts to slander the activity of our juridical organs and denigrate the significance of legal guarantees in Soviet society.

This is essentially the nature of all the noisy campaigns "in defense" of human rights conducted in the West, campaigns that constitute attempts to tarnish socialism in the eyes of the peoples and distract attention from bourgeois society's social evils, from the aggressive aspirations of imperialist circles, and from the violations of legality in capitalist countries.

Socialist legality is an important principle of our social life. It is manifested in the strict observance of juridical norms during investigations and court hearings, the protection of the inviolability of the individual and his home and of the privacy of correspondence and telephone conversations, the protection of family interests, and the guaranteed right to criticize shortcomings in the activity of state institutions, public organizations, and officials.

In capitalist society the rights and freedoms which are proclaimed are essentially unguaranteed. U.S. political scientist C. R. Mills admits that in the United States "it is much safer to glorify civil liberties than to uphold them." In actual fact, for example, the U.S. air traffic controllers' labor union only had to request that the situation of employees be improved and it was disbanded and its leaders fined. Peace fighters in many Western countries have only to participate in antiwar demonstrations and they are subjected to repressions. In order to suppress "dissidents," the U.S. Supreme Court adopted a resolution violating elementary juridical principles: Permission has been given for the use in court of evidence obtained by police during searches without a prosecutor's warrant, the monitoring of telephone conversations, and the interception of correspondence. The FBI has compiled files on 34 million "suspect" citizens.

Crude and mass violations of human rights constantly take place in South Africa, in the Arab territories occupied by Israel, and in Chile, Guatemala, Grenada, and El Salvador.

Speaking of fundamental differences between the socialist and capitalist concepts of human rights, one cannot fail to mention collective rights, the rights of peoples, classes, and other social communities. The Land of the Soviets was the first in history to proclaim the declaration of the rights of working and exploited peoples, subsequently included in the 1918 RSFSR Constitution. The right of nations to self-determination, including the formation of their own state, the right of peoples to peace and free development without oppression and exploitation, and the rights of trade unions, other public organizations, and labor collectives have received wide recognition in the political and legal awareness of the people's masses. They are enshrined in the legislation of socialist countries and have become part of the practice of international relations under the direct influence of the Soviet state's revolutionary ideas and practical actions. The UN Human Rights Commission frankly noted in one of its resolutions "the great practical and theoretical contribution by the humanist V.I. Lenin to the development and implementation of economic, social, and cultural rights," and "the historic influence of his humanist ideas and practical activity."

The socialist countries have been the initiators of the elaboration of some most important documents in the human rights sphere. They have signed and ratified international conventions and pacts which have still not been recognized by the leading capitalist powers and primarily the United States.

The world outlook and class goals of socialism and capitalism are opposite and irreconcilable. This, however, is no reason for military confrontation threatening the fundamental human rights: the right to life. This necessitates strict observance by each state of generally recognized norms and principles of international law, among which the maintenance of universal peace and the peoples' security stands out for its urgency.

The states that participated in the all-European Conference on Security and Cooperation pledged "to encourage and develop effective implementation of civil, political, economic, social, cultural, and other rights and freedoms," observing and respecting each country's laws and administrative regulations.

What have these pledges meant as far as the U.S. Administration is concerned? Empty words, essentially. The United States has turned interference in other countries' internal affairs into its permanent political line. You have only to recall the aggression against Grenada, the events in Lebanon, the support for the Afghan counterrevolution, the launching of the undeclared war against Nicaragua, and the acts of international terrorism.

The political and juridical practice of socialist countries sets a graphic example of unwavering implementation of humane principles reflecting mankind's general democratic gains.

The socialist concept of human rights develops and improves in parallel with the development of democracy and the strengthening of socialist people's power. The truth about human rights in the socialist countries helps to reveal the humane meaning of socialist democracy and its advantages over bourgeois democracy and to assert the position of the working man's personality as the supreme asset in socialist society.

ALIYEV VISITS YOUTH FESTIVAL GOODS EXHIBITION

PM161046 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 85 p 4

[G. Kivanov-Smolenskiy report: "With the Festival Logo"]

[Excerpts] Enterprises in all union republics are producing items carrying the symbol of the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students. The best of them are on show at the All-Union Institute of Light Industry and Fashion Merchandise.

G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committe Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR council of Ministers, yesterday visited the exhibition of sample products carrying the symbol of the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students.

On the same day the exhibition was visited by participants in the Komsomol Central Committee plenum.

GRISHIN ATTENDS SUBWAY AWARD CEREMONY 20 MAY

LD201829 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] One cannot imagine our capital without the underground. For successfully fulfilling the plans for passanger carriage the Moscow Metropolitan named after Lenin has been awarded the Order of the Labor Red Banner. A festive meeting held today in the Hall of Columns of the House of the Unions in Moscow was devoted to this event and the 50th anniversary of the transport enterprise. In the presidium was Viktor Vasilyevich Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, with other comrades. Comrade Grishin cordially congratulated the collective on the award and pinned the order to the banner of the Moscow Metropolitan. In their speeches participants in the meeting spoke of reserves for further developing this type of transport in large towns and improving work for the service of passengers.

NIKONOV TOURS CHERKASSY, POLTAVA OBLASTS

PM201551 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Visit to Ukraine"]

[Text] V.P. Nikonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited Cherkassy and Poltava Oblasts 14-17 May. During meetings with rural working people and agro-industrial association workers great attention was devoted to ways to accelerate the realization of the Food Program.

On Cherkassy and Poltava Oblast farms V.P. Nikonov was interested in the progress made in introducing intensive and industrial technologies for the cultivation of agricultural crops. It was emphasized here that it is necessary to strive for the maximum economic effect on the basis of profoundly mastering progressive methods and irreproachably fulfilling every technological operation in the fields in accordance with scientifically substantiated farming systems.

There was a thorough discussion with livestock unit workers of progressive methods of further developing and intensifying livestock raising. Particular attention was focused on increasing production of coarse and succulent feed, substantially improving its quality, and improving zootechnical work. The need to introduce the collective contract everywhere, primarily the integral collective contract, was spoken of at the meetings.

During his visit to agricultural experimental stations attention was focused on questions of enhancing the topicality and quality of scientific developments and combining them more closely with the practical tasks facing the agroindustrial association.

In the meetings and talks with working people V.P. Nikonov inquired about progress in the social transformation of villages, their comprehensive development, and the measures being taken to get young people to stay in their home area and to create stable labor collectives.

V.P. Nikonov had talks with the party and economic aktiv and leaders of agroindustrial associations in Cherkassy and Poltava Oblasts. The tasks of mobilizing communists and all working people to unconditionally fulfill the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum decisions, successfully complete the 11th 5-Year Plan, and worthily greet the 27th CPSU Congress were discussed.

V.P. Nikonov was accompanied on the trips by I.K. Lutak, first secretary of Cherkassy party Obkom; N.S. Ivlev, first deputy chairman of the oblispolkom; F.T. Morgun, first secretary of Poltava party Obkom; and A.S. Myakota, chairman of the oblispolkom.

GEORGIAN PARTY PLENUM HEARS SHEVARDNADZE SPEECH

PM201511 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 85 First Edition p 2

[PRAVDA correspondent G. Lebanidze report under the general heading "New Targets Lie Ahead: The Party Committees Discuss Measures To Fulfill the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum": "Georgia"]

[Text] Communists and all the working people in the republic are fully determined to achieve new successes in their work, fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, and greet the 27th party congress in a fitting manner. This idea runs right through the report and all the speeches heard at the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee plenum.

"The period of preparations for the party congress must pass under the sign of the struggle for the all-around intensification of production, the growth of its efficiency, the successful completion of the current 5-year plan, and the creation of solid groundwork for the future," E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, stressed in his report.

The plenum defined the main points where efforts must be applied for the further intensification of the economy, the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, the restructuring of management and planning, and the enhancement of organization and discipline.

The speakers said that wider use should be made of the experience accumulated by the republic's party organization in the leadership of the development of the economy and culture; it is necessary to act more energetically and be more active in introducing into practice the results of economic experiments which have justified themselves. It was noted with satisfaction that the republic is overcoming the laggardness which had taken shape in relation to the unionwide average for the most important indicators of social and economic growth. The rates of growth in the average annual volume of gross agricultural output, retail trade turnover, and the population's real income have become marked. Rural workers have coped successfully with plan targets for the procurement of the main types of output, with the exception of grapes.

Analyzing the work of party organizations, the participants in the plenum focused the main attention on unrealized potential. It was noted that land, material and financial resources, vehicles and machinery, and the potential for land reclamation and mechanization are still not being utilized efficiently. There was talk of bringing the mountain regions which occupy one-third of the republic's territory up to the level of the frontrunners.

The question of the unsatisfactory state of the material and technical base of the processing industry was raised. Because of this, much agricultural produce is lost. The plenum demanded special monitoring of progress in work at construction projects scheduled for completion in the agro-industrial complex, as well as the elaboration and implementation of measures to improve the organization of the construction and modernization of enterprises in food sectors in the 12th 5-Year Plan.

Problems of the acceleration of scientific and technical progress were examined in detail. Much has been done in this respect in recent years. Savings resulting from the introduction of innovations have doubled during the 5-year plan period, and trebled compared with 1975. Nonetheless, the keynote speaker and those who spoke in the debate said, there are still great reserves here. A tangible effect is expected from the introduction of targeted comprehensive planning. This has been elaborated through the year 2005, and provides for the wide use of progressive technology, computer hardware and electronics, and flexible automated systems, and for a sharp reduction in the materials-intensiveness of output. This work should be carried out more purposefully.

In conditions where there is an extremely low coefficient of equipment renewal in the republic, great significance is attached to the territorial robotization center. Capacities are being created at the Agregat experiemental plant to produce electric drives and electrical semiconductor instruments for machine tools with digital program control, robots, and manipulators. A promising avenue is the construction of an electric steel-smelting facility at the Rustavi metallurgical plant, while the production of semiconductor materials is planned at the Marneuli mining enrichment combine.

The plenum participants directed sharp attention to questions of improving product quality. By no means everything is going well here. In the first 4 months of this year alone, the people at the State Committee for Standards were forced to apply economic sanctions 120 times. The idea was expressed that it is necessary to extend enterprises' rights as regards the defining of plan proportions on the basis of real needs and market demand. In this connection the question of creating a more flexible pricing machinery was raised.

Improving the leadership of economic and cultural building, it was noted at the plenum, is inextricable linked with improving the style and methods of the party committees' work. Many of them are still too busy with resolving secondary issues, concern themselves with paperwork, are fond of holding sessions and conferences for any or no reason, and have a poor understanding of the state of affairs on the spot. Instances of excessive spending, embezzlement of the people's property, write-ups, the production of unlisted output, bribe-taking, speculation, and other negative phenomena have not yet been eliminated.

Large-scale embezzlements have taken place recently in the state committee of the wine making industry system, in Signakhskiy, Telavskiy, and Gurdzhaanskiy Rayons, at the Liloyskiy combine of the Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming, in the Kaspskiy Rayon potrebsoyuz, and at local and light industry enterprises. Instances of bribe-taking and other abuses were uncovered recently at the Kutaisi petroleum base and within the apparatus of the republican State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products itself.

Matters must be organized, it was stressed at the plenum, in such a way as to ensure that no worker, whatever post he holds, remains outside the control, outside the field of vision of the primary party organization. It is necessary to ensure the purity of party ranks and to struggle resolutely, as was noted at the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum, for the party person's image to be honest and pure. This is promoted by the practice in the republic's party organizations of hearing Communists' reports and approving party characterizations. More than 28,000 Communists have already undergone this type of "accreditation." In the process of the discussion of reports, many have been removed from leadership work.

Measures for improving ideological and mass political work were outlined. The times require an improvement in economic education and economic propaganda in general. Universal economic education should be linked more closely with the elaboration of measures to step up the material and moral interest of working people and teach them to count and to save every ruble of the state's. Mention was made of the need to improve information to the population on all urgent issues, to study public opinion in depth, and to make wider use of the methods which have justified themselves, such as television dialogues, the open letter days which are held in the republic, and meetings in labor collectives.

The plenum resolved to convene the regular 27th Georgian Communist Party Congress, 23 January 1986.

BAGIROV SPEAKS AT AZERBAIJAN PARTY PLENUM

PM201435 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 85 First Edition p 2

[Undated report by correspondent L. Tairov on Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee plenum under general heading: "Making Fuller Use of Reserves"]

[Text] The report delivered by K.M. Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, and the speeches of those taking part in the plenum noted that the republic's working people are expressing the determination to mark the months preceding the congress with strenuous work and new achievements in all sectors of communist building.

There is every opportunity for this: Azerbaijan's economy is developing dynamically and since the start of the current 5-year plan the national income has increased 21.5 percent. The industrial production growth rate has been 24.3 percent, which is higher than planned, and labor productivity has risen 17.8 percent.

Positive changes have also been achieved in construction, transport, and other spheres of the national economy. Compared with the previous 5-year period gross rural production has risen by nearly one-third while for the sale of cotton, grapes, fruit, potatoes, and leaf tea, the 5-year plan targets have already been met.

The present year has been successfully started. Industry has fulfilled the plan for the first 4 months ahead of schedule. The sowing of spring crops has been completed within the optimum agrotechnical deadlines, work on the plantations and in the orchards is proceeding successfully, and livestock and poultry procurement has increased 12 percent, milk procurement 4 percent, and egg procurement 7 percent compared with the previous wintering period.

At the same time, the speeches pointed out, in all sectors of social production there are considerable social production reserves whose implementation will make it possible to make far more effective use of the production and scientific and technical potential created in the republic. Ensuring a high degree of organization and labor discipline produces a rapid return. The measures taken in this direction have made it possible in a year to reduce losses of worktime in industry by 60 percent and to decrease cadres turnover 10 percent. Over 600 of the republic's enterprises and organizations have no instances of violation of labor discipline.

But it would be wrong to slip into complacency, the speakers noted. Losses of worktime are still great at enterprises of the ministries of light industry, fruit and vegetable farming, and motor transport, and in the organizations of the Baku City Main Administration for Housing and Civil Engineering Construction, and Ministry of Construction, and the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry. Questions of the eradication of instances of extravagances, losses of cement, timber, fuel, and fertilizers, and field and stockraising output were keenly raised. So far only poor use is being made of fixed capital. According to the figures of a 24-hour study, in machine building alone 8 percent of equipment stands idle.

In the struggle to strengthen discipline, the implementation of the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Measures To Overcome Drunkenness and Alcoholism" will be an important part of all organizational and ideological-political work, the plenum noted.

The plenum made complaints against the Republican Academy of Sciences and sectorial institutes for the poor return on the investments in science. Thus, many scientific collectives are engaged in working out problems of the petroleum and gas extraction industry, but progressive methods of the intensification of oil and gas continue to be implemented only feebly.

And quality problems? Here too we have still not succeeded in achieving a fundamental breakthrough. A number of types of machinery, equipment, units, instruments, industrial rubber articles, petroleum products, mixed feed, and construction materials do not accord with modern requirements. The population rightly complains of some types of sewn articles, footwear, and individual foodstuffs. Quality must be monitored by the party committees! That is the task set by the republic Communist Party Central Committee Plenum.

The implementation of the tasks connected with preparation for the 27th CPSU Congress requires the further improvement of the style, forms, and methods of party work. The plenum participants said that some party committees have still not renounced their office-bound busywork and red tape or enthrallment with various staffs and commissions. The Kirovskiy, Apsheronskiy, Kelbadzharskiy, and Kubinskiy Party Raykoms, where many hundreds of questions are examined in a year at bureau sessions, were cited. How can we fail here to recall Lenin's precept: better less and better! There is just one conclusion: to be more exacting in monitoring the execution of what has been planned and to be stricter in applying penalties for the nonfulfillment of party decisions and instructions.

The reports and elections in the party organizations will be an important event in the life of the party and country. The main thing, it was emphasized from the plenum platform, is to direct the efforts of Communists and all working people toward the successful completion of the plans for this year and the 5-year plan as a whole and to give every support to everything valuable and constructive put forward in the letters and proposals reaching the party committees. There was also an examination of questions of cadres and ideological and political work among the masses. All forms and avenues of this work, the speakers said, must be accompanied as much as possible with the task of accelerating scientific-technical progress.

The plenum resolved to convene the next, 31st, Azerbaijan Communist Party Congress, 29 January 1986.

USMANKHODZHAYEV SPEAKS AT UZBEK PLENUM

PM201507 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 85 First Edition p 2

[Correspondent N. Gladkov report: "As the Time Demands; From the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A new upsurge of political and labor activeness and a businesslike self-critical mood have been aroused among Uzbekistan's Communists by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum. This was discussed at the republic's Communist Party Central Committee plenum held yesterday. The report delivered by I.B. Usmankhodzhayev, first secretary of Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee, and the speeches and debates provided a comprehensive analysis of the state of affairs and fundamentally criticized the shortcomings in leadership of the economy and in organizational, party, and ideological work.

Recently, positive tendencies have emerged in many sectors of the republic's economic and cultural building. Last year a number of sectors, associations, and enterprises coped successfully with production plans and pledges for product deliveries. The V.P. Chkalov Aviation Association, the "Uzbekselmash", "Mikond", and "Uzbekkhimmash" Plants, and many others are working steadily without any disruptions whatsoever. It is primarily those, who are making skillful use of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, improving labor organization, and perfecting forms and methods of socialist competition, who are securing success.

The plenum participants spoke with satisfaction of the positive changes occurring in cotton-growing -- the republic's main economic sector. Last year less cotton was handed over by kolkhozes and sovkhozes than in 1983, but almost 100,000 metric tons more fiber will be produced that in the previous season. Also 20,000 mertic tons more oil will be obtained from cotton seed. The new method of assessing cotton growers' labor has played an important role in all this, the speakers believed.

However, the republic's 5-year socioeconomic development plan is failing to be fulfilled satisfactorily as regards many indicators. The volume of industrial production is not increasing at a rapid enough pace, and production of a number of types of agricultural products has declined. Targets for the extraction of gas and the production of steel, sulfuric acid, cotton-harvesting machines, cotton fabrics, and other industrial products are not being met. A lag has also been permitted in the production of potatoes, gourds, fruits, and grapes, and in purchases of livestock, poultry, milk, and eggs. Construction workers are failing to cope with the plan for the commissioning of fixed capital, housing, and hospitals.

The plenum participants revealed the causes of this state of affairs. Last year, for example in industry there was a shortfall in output of more then R100 million through losses of worktime alone. Matters are in a particularly poor way in oblasts such as Syr-Darya, Surkhan-Darya, and Andizhan Oblasts. Big losses of worktime are being permitted at enterprises of the furniture industry, the Ministry of Rural Construction, and the construction materials industry, and in this connection the plenum sharply criticized the following ministers -- K. Makhamadliyev, N. Kurbanov, and G. Isayev.

Other instances of lack of organization, mismanagement, and slackness were also cited. Dozens of machine tools with digital program control have been standing idle for a long time at the "Chirchikselmash" plant. Why? Neither the enterprise's party organization nor the Chirchik party Gorkom (first secretary -- P. Yusupov) took control in time of the training of skilled cadres. The same thing is happening at textile enterprises and their branches. Yet the commissioning of ever new enterprises is being planned in the republic.

Those ministry and department leaders, who by fair means or foul seek to reduce the targets for production volume, have been criticized on more than one occasion, but the vicious practice of amending plans continues. In the cotton-ginning and the meat and dairy industries and the Procurements Ministry, the plans for the first quarter were reduced for more than half the enterprises. The Ministries of Light Industry and Construction reduced their annual plans, and the Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industy, the Ministry of the Forestry Industry, and the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment to Agriculture raised questions about this. The immediate duty of ministry, department, and enterprise leaders is not to reduce plan targets but to organize their fulfillment, the speakers said.

Recently, party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms and soviet and economic organs have started to occupy themselves more with questions of introducing scientific and technical achievements, seeing this as the main lever for intensifying production. Since the start of the 10th 5-Year Plan around 2,000 scientific developments have been introduced into production. Over 400 scientific research projects are completed annually by scientific organizations and VUZes. However, neither the pace nor the nature of the retooling of the national economy corresponds with the demands of today. Fifty-six percent of workers are still engaged in manual labor at the republic's enterprises, and the proportion is two-thirds in the Construction Ministry. Many instances attest to laggardness of science. For instance around 10 organizations in the republic are engaged in questions of effective irrigation methods. And the results? Irrigation of cotton and other agricultural crops is still carried out by the old methods of our grandfathers.

Party committees and primary party organizations, the plenum said, must radically improve the work to accelerate scientific and technical progress and must be intransigent in their attitude to technical stagnation and backwardness.

The plenum paid great attention to the need to improve the style and method of leadership of the national economy and to improve the activity of management organs. It was noted, in particular, that many ministries and departments are still extremely keen on paper-pushing, sessionmania, and the compilation of instructions. Last year the republic's State Committee for Water Resources Construction sent its organizations almost 5,000 documents with an overall printrun of 144,000 copies -- that is, 100 papers per day. In the same period the Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry published 640 orders and 178 directions. The Ministry of Agriculture put out more than 700 directives in the oblast. At the receiving end they do not have time to read such a quantity of papers, never mind fulfill them.

Analyzing the progress in fulfilling the Food Program, the plenum participants discussed the fact that it is necessary primarily to increase the effective utilization of land and seek to ensure that the maximum yield is obtained from every hectare in all oblasts and rayons. This is not so far the case. Last year Andizhan Oblast farms obtained output to the value of R1,908 per irrigated hectare, while farms in neighboring Fergana Oblast obtained output worth R123 less. In Khorezm Oblast revenue per hectare amounted to R1,663, while in the neighboring Kara-Kappak ASSR the revenue was only one-half this sum. Questions of storage and repair of equipment demand a more attentive attitude. Numerous instances of above-norm writing off of machinerey and of keeping tractors and combines in machine operators' own yards have been revealed in the republic.

Educational work must be raised to a new level, the speakers said. Party organizations must help people understand more profoundly the essence of the economic and social processes occurring and recognize their objective vital necessity. Agitation must be taken directly into shops, teams, and livestock units. A healthy moral climate must be created in every collective and the conviction must be strengthened that honest conscientious labor will be fittingly assessed, while negligence and slackness will be universally condemned.

The republic's working people have adopted lofty pledges in honor of the upcoming 27th CPSU congress. Industrial workers have planned to fulfill the annual plan by 26 December and to provide output worth R200 million in excess of the plan, including consumer goods worth R150 million. Reclamation workers have undertaken to fulfill the plan for assimilating new land and to hand over 77,000 hectares of irrigated areas for use by the 68th anniversary of Great October. Farmers are pledging to provide around 2 million metric tons of fruit and vegetable products in excess of the 5-year plan. Party organizations will continue to develop the initiative of competition participants and to encourage bold thinking and creative quests.

The plenum resolved to convene the next, the 21st, Uzbek Communist Party Congress on 31 January 1986.

DEMIRCHYAN, ARMENIAN PLENUM ON SHORTCOMINGS

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[Undated report on Armenian Communist Party Central Committee plenum by correspondent Yu. Arakelyan under general heading: "Making Fuller Use of Reserves"]

[Text] The keynote speaker, K.S. Demirchyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, and the speakers in the debates noted that the consistent work to improve the standard of party leadership of the economy is having a positive effect on the development of the republic's national economy. The targets for the first 4 years of the current 5-year plan have been successfully met.

The implementation of the plans for its concluding year are also ahead of schedule. Despite the harsh conditions of the past winter, the rural workers have worked well. There has been an increase in the volumes of purchases of meat and milk and targets are being successfully fulfilled for the production of other types of output and their sale to the state.

Of course, much has been done and the successes are obvious. Behind them lie the masses' selfless labor, initiative, and creativity, and people's high level of political awareness. At the same time, it was noted from the plenum rostrum, we cannot forget that we still have many shortcomings and deficiencies and serious ones at that. It is not at all enterprises that party organizations and economic leaders display due concern for the fulfillment of projected targets, the acceleration of production intensification rates, the introduction of new equipment and progressive technology, the improvement of labor productivity and quality, and the effective use of existing capacities and financial, material, and manpower resources. Teams are being transferred only slowly to the contract method at enterprises of the chemical, food, meat and dairy, motor transport, and instrument building industries.

Matters are not well with regard to the fulfillment of targets for new equipment. Plans are still being downgraded. All this is happening because at the enterprises of a number of ministries and departments scientific-technical progress is proceeding only slackly and the responsibility of economic leaders and specialists for the technical standard of production is low.

It is intolerable, the speakers pointed out, when a large quantity of equipment, including imported equipment, remains unassembled for years and is a dead weight at a number of projects of the republic's Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Light Industry, and Ministry of Fruits and Vegetable Farming. Spoilage, shortcomings and instances of direct infringements on the people's property continue to occur, especially at enterprises of the Ministry of Light Industry (The minister is A. Gevorkyan), the Ministry Of Trade (The minister is S. Sarafyan) and others. At the same time the dilatoriness in revealing economic crimes displayed by the administrative organs and in particular the Armenian SSR MVD is intolerable.

The plenum participants were particularly concerned by the fact that many types of machine tools, machines, and mechanisms produced in the republic lag considerably behind their best counterparts and have a higher metals-intensiveness and small productivity. On the other hand, work to provide production with highly effective equipment is not always accompanied by the necessary measures with respect to its workload and rational utilization. As a result the return on investment is reduced and the machine shift coefficient is low.

Urgency could also be sensed in the speeches relating to the style and practice of the leadership of the agroindustrial complex. Artiskiy, Tugarkskiy, Idzevanskiy, Talinskiy, and a number of other rayons have not only failed to reach the planned volumes for the production and procurements of meat, milk, eggs, vegetables, and fruit. The party organizations frequently overlook questions like improving the profitability of agricultural production, the correct correlation between the growth of labor productivity and wages, the use of funds, and the development of farms' initiative and autonomy. This largely explains the fact that last year 67 sovkhozes of the republic's Ministry of Agriculture operated at loss. Yet the main thing in the intensification of agriculture is to improve the output yield from every hectare and to ensure a higher return from the material and financial resources which are utilized. That is what should become the law, the norm, of economic activity.

During the precongress survey, the speakers noted, self-congratulatory reports must be avoided at all costs. Exacting criticism of those specifically guilty of poor work and the exposure of blunders and their causes are needed. It is fundamentally important to continue to steer a line toward ensuring the stability of party leadership and the correct combination of experienced and young workers. It is essential to promote women cadres more actively and to create everywhere an atmosphere favoring the growth and manifestation of people's abilities.

Political educational and ideological work must be raised to a new level and it must be linked more closely with the implementation of the program to accelerate the republic's socioeconomic development and intensify social production. The effectiveness of communist education must be enhanced and the tremendous creative forces in the masses' consciousness and conviction must be set in motion -- that is the task which the party Central Committee set the Armenian Communists in the light of the fulfillment of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum. They have become, for the republican party organization, a document of great mobilizing force, a clear-cut program for further improving all work. Everything must be done to ensure that propaganda brings people the party's intelligent words and arouses the working people's thoughts and develops their initiative.

The plenum expressed the firm conviction that the Communists and all working people of Armenia, in strengthening and developing positive trends, will step up their work to implement the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum and greet the 27th congress of Lenin's party with new successes.

The plenum decided to convene the next, 28th, Armenian Communist Party Congress 23 January 1986.

BIOGRAPHIES OF NEW MINISTERS VORONOVSKIY, BREZHNEV

PM170915 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 1985 Morning Edition carries on page 8 two unattributed biographical sketches of Gennadiy Petrovich Voronovskiy and Vladimir Arkadyevich Brezhnev, who have been appointed to ministerial posts by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The items include a head-and-shoulders photograph of each man. The text accompanying the portrait of Voronovskiy, who has been appointed USSR Minister of the Electrical Equipment Industry, reads in full as follows:

"Comrade G.P. Voronovskiy was born in 1924, is a Russian, has been a CPSU member since 1955, and has higher education. He took part in the Great Patriotic War. He progressed from foreman to production chief at the Leningrad "Elektrosila" machine-building association. From 1965 through 1967 he was a main administration chief and collegium member of the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry. In 1967 he became deputy minister and in 1981 first deputy minister of the electrical equipment industry.

"He has been awarded the Order of Lenin, the Order of the October Revolution, and other USSR state awards."

The text accompanying the sketch of Brezhnev, who has been appointed USSR Minister of Transport Construction, reads in full as follows:

"Comrade V. A. Brezhnev was born in 1931, is a Russian, and has been a CPSU member since 1959. He graduated from the Odessa Hydrotechnical Institute. He began work in 1949 as a fitter at a metallurgical plant. From 1955-1975 he worked in transport construction organizations where he progressed from works superintendent to trust manager. In 1975 he became USSR deputy minister and in 1983 USSR first deputy minister of transport construction. He is a Meritorious Construction worker of the Ukrainian SSR."